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FROM
GOVERNORS
IN AMERICA
1756

pp. 1-617

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

[p. 1]

Virginia Williamsburg Nov.r 24th. 1755

Right Honble

Inclosed you have Copy of my Letter by way of Bristol, of the 15th Instt to which I desire to be referred. Since that I am honor-ed with Your several Letters of the 26th July 28th and 29th of August. I have been very so-licitous in puting this Government in in as defensive a Manner as I possibly could, con-sidering we have no Fortifications to defend us against any Invasion by Sea, but must depend on the Ships of War that may be or-dered us for our Protection.

On the Death of General Braddock I immediately commenced a strict Correspondence with Major General Shirley, and shall now continue the same, by giving him a proper Account of every Thing that may occurr for His Majesty's Service.

I am greatly surprized Governor Dyer has not done me the justice of acquainting You of the Money I sent him, agreeable to Your Commands; or what Steps he has taken for building a Fort in the Upper Cherokee Coun-try: he did write me for 6,000 £ more, which I by no means could spare, as the Demands

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on me were large to support the Expedition, I wrote him, I thought the Colony over which he presided should be at the rest of the Charge, as it is for their own Protection; and that they had for many Years had the sole Bene-fit of the Trade with those People: I had a Letter from him about two Months ago, that he had a Meeting with the Chiefs of the Cherokees, that he had made a Purchase of all their Lands &c. I answered, that he had better have purchased their Friendship and back-ed my earnest Solicitations to them to send in five hundred of their Warriors to join our Forces near the Ohio against the Common Enemy. This is all I know from that Gentleman.

I am sorry to hear a Report from the Northward that Governor Littleton is taken by the French in his Passage to South Carolina, I hope this will be contradicted, for I flattered myself with great Happiness and Pleasure in having a strict Correspondence with that Gentleman.

The Neutrals that arrived from Nova Scotia were a great Surprize to the People here, as I had no previous Notice of their coming in or-der to provide for them.. And our Crops have been very short, occasioned by great Draught,

that I was obliged to prohibit shipping any off. Our Lands in the lower Parts of this Colony, chiefly taken up and Private Property, so that I cannot assign these People any; and it is not reasonable to give them any on our Frontiers, where the French and Indians are robbing and murdering our People; and indeed [p2] it was with Difficulty I could get a Majority of the Council to receive them at any rate; however I sent down two of the Council to Hampton, where they were arrived with the following Propositions

1st That if they were admitted as Fellow Subjects, they must take the Oath of Allegiance without any Reservation

2d: That they would be peaceable Subjects, conform and subject themselves to the Laws of this Colony.

3. That they should not depart from the Limits assigned them without Leave from the Governor or Commander in Chief.

The Gentlemen returned say; as to the first they have already swore Allegiance to His Majesty, that they never forfeited it, but are punished for the Faults of others. As to the other two Articles they will chearfully submit, but they wanted a free exercise of their Religion and have

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their Priests; which I ordered the Gentlemen to let them know was by no means to be allowed or must be admitted consistent to our Constitution; and they think they will in time take the Oath of Allegiance again.

The next Point was their maintenance till next April, before they can possibly be prop-erly settled; its so contrary to the Sense of the People in general of admitting them among us, that I am persuaded the Assembly will give them no Assistance; it was therefore agreed by the Council, that they are to be supported from the two Shil-lings ℔ Hogshead Revenue; the Ballance thereon is so very small that I fear it will exhaust the Whole.

Sir, The French are extremely assiduous with all the Southern Indians in Friendship <u>with Britain</u>, to draw them from their Duty and En-gagements to us; and I fear they have had too much Success with the Creeks, as I hear they are endeavouring to prevail with them to de-clare War against South Carolina and their In-dians; that they have, as I am informed, de-clared against the Chickesaws; a Nation of In-dians that have been long in Friendship with us, and traded with the South Carolina People. I am

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also told, some of their Emissaries and Priests are tampering with the Catawbas and Cherokees; I therefore think it absolutely necessary at this Time to send Commissioners to those two Nations to fix them to our Interest, and I have prevailed with Peter Randolph and William Byrd Esqrs two of the Council, to be Commissioners to them, with two other Gentlemen; there must be a handsom Present of at least five hundred Pounds; and as the Revenue of two Shillings ℔ Hogshead is appropriated for maintenance of the Neutral French; I have engaged 500£ from the small Ballance in my Hands of the Credit I formerly had from Home; and as I really think this is a most essential piece of Service, I hope it will [p.2] meet with Approbation; the Commissioners have Instructions to prevail with them to supply us with 500 of their Warriors to join our Forces on any Operations to be undertaken next Spring.

These different Points I have with much Difficulty and close Application obtained, and I am in hopes they will appear proper & necessary, and if my Conduct herein is approved of it will give me much Satisfaction.

I remain with great Deference and due Respects.

Right Honble / Your most faithful and / obedient humble Servant

[autograph] Robt. Dinwiddie

Sir Thomas Robinson

[illegible]

Expedition to the Ohio Dr. To sundry Disbursements and Supplies made by Robert Dinwiddie Esqr. Lieutenant Governor of Virginia viz.t

		Virginia Money
1754	Cash paid Capt. Arbuthnott freight of Money from England	231. 14. .
	John Hunter for Supplies to the Independent Compa.as p his Receipt the 20th May	68. 5. .
	D.o as p his Receipt the 24th of October	300. . .
	John Carlyle for D.o as p Receipt the 24th. of May	728. 3. 6
	D.o for D.o as p Receipt the 4th. of October	541. 9. 3
Novr. 3	D.o for 306 Head of Beeves	903. 7. 10
	Cash paid sundry People for Flour as p Receipt	1263. 15. 2
	Freight of Small Arms by Capt. Pearson	105. 18. 5
Decr. 30	Col.o James Innes for sundry Charges at Fort Cumberland as p Receipt & Vouchers	300.
	Charles Dick & Thomas Walker Commissaries for Purchase of Provisions Waggons Horses &c.a as p Receipt Account and Vouchers	4401. 12. 6
	William Nelson Esqr. for Tools &c.a as p Receipt	79. 10. 2
1755 Jan.y 11	Sir John St. Clair Cash for purchase of Corn & Fodder	201. 12.
15	Governor Sharpe's Order to Robert Calender for Waggons Horses &c.a	497. 4. 6
	Paid Sir John St. Clair's Order to Alex.r Finnie for Horses	266. 1. 3
March 10	Cash for 341 Cts Pork & 134 of Beef p Receipt	964. 13. 9
Feb.y 14	Sir John St. Clair Cash	100. . .
15	Burwell Bassett for Horses	115. . .
25	Two Horses from Governor Sharpe & two from Thos. Walker	102. 8. .
March 3	Richd. Timberlake for an Horse	10. . .
	John Robinson for an Horse	10. . .
18	300 Quintals of dried Fish freight &c.a	302. 10. .
	Cash enlisting 130 Men, with Charges delivered Sir Peter Halket & Col.o Dunbar	520. . .
	Cash paid for Goods for a Present to the Southern Indians, sent General Braddock to Fort Cumberl.d	399. 2. 3
	John Cary p Account	8. 9. 9
26	Two pair of Cannon Wheels sent the General	14. 10. .
	Governor Innes's further Charges at Fort Cumberl.d as p Receipt	249. 9. 4
	Cash paid freight of Provisions to Alexandria and Fredericksburg	105. 10. .
May 9	General Braddock's Order to Robt. Calender for Horses &c.a	1036. 12. 4
	Edward Hack Mosley for four Horses	44. 5. 6
	Carried over	£14156. 4. 6

		Virginia Money
1755	Sum brought over	14156. 4. 6
June 16	To three Horses for Capt. Hoyer, Stone & their Servant having Dispatches for the General	44. 14. 6
	Peter Lychee for carrying nine Officers belonging to Nova Scotia from this to Annapolis	16. 2. 6
26	Governor Sharpe's Account and Order	333. 3. .
	D^o^ for his Pay as Commander of the Forces 131 £ Sr^g^ is this Currency	170. 19. -
	Daniel Wolstenholme's Commissions for negotiating 2000 £ Sr^g^ Bills of Exchange	65. . .
28	a Horse for Capt Shaw by the General's Order & Cash for his Expences	28. 12. .
	John Hunter for fresh Provisions for the Troops on their arrival, & providing an Hospital, by Sir John St Clair's Order on me	303. 10. 8
	John Hunter's Account for Sundrys	33. 9. 4
	Expresses to South Carolina, Philadelphia & New York Sundry times	98. 10. .
	Waggonage of Provisions from Alexandria to Fort Cumberland	155. . .
Oct^r^ 24	Alex^r^ Finnie for Corn & Fodder at his House ...	18. 1. .
	Cash paid Charges for the Seamen who were at the Engagem^t^ with Gen^l^ Braddock to return to their Ships	12. 15. .
	Lieut. John Gray his Pay as Brigade Major at Fort Cumberland	97. 10. .
	Sundry disabled & wounded Soldiers	10. 15. .
	Charles Dick's Account	14. 6. 10
	Arthur Dobbs Esq^r^ his Order on me to John Hunter for 344 Beeves delivered at Winchester by Order of Gen^l^ Bradock	978. . .
	John Hunter for freight of Great Guns to Rock Creek and some Rice	82. 5. 7
	Cash for Goods for a Present to the Cherokees & Intenders sent by the Commissioners Peter Randolph & Wm Boyd Esq^rs^	650. . .
		17498. 18. 11
	Ballance in my Hands to be hereafter accounted for..	4878. 2. 1½
		£ 22377. 1. 7½

Williamsburg Virginia
p Robt

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Contra . . . . . Lr. Virginia Money

By Gold rec.d by His Majesty's Ship Garland Capt. Merriot Arbuthnott 2556 Oz. at 5£ p.r Oz. produced } 12782. 10 -

By a Letter of Credit from Sr. Thomas Robinson to draw on John Hanbury for } 10000. - -

1755 Febr.y 9 By my Bill on John Han=bury to Jas. Lyon Esq.r Govr. of S.r Carolina for the Hono.rs &c.a . . . . . } 1000. -

By my Bill to John Han=bury for Tents, Cloathing &c.a p.r his Account . . . . } 1549. 9

2349. 9. -

This Sterling Ballance to be ac=counted for, as p.r the follow.g Bills on M.r Hanbury . . . . . } 7455. 11. -

Jan.y 7 . . . 24th Four Setts of Bills to M.r Dan.l Wolstenholme 500 £ each is } 2000. . . . . 2580. - -

Apr. . . 7 Lord Baltimore . . . . . 1000. . . . . 1290. - -

14 Four setts of Bills to M.r Oliver Delaney 250 £ each is . . . } 1000. . . . . 1300. - -

26 Two setts of Bill to M.r Charles Osborn 200 and 300 £ is } 500. . . . . 650. - -

May . . . 7 Earl of Granville . . . . . 500. . . . . 650. - -

June 26 George Mason . . . . . 200. 6. 6 . . . . . 230. - -

28 Governor Sharpe . . . . . 172. 16. . . . . 221. 12. 9

July 5 John Hutchings . . . . . 200. . . . . 250. - -

13 William Allen . . . . . 100. . . . . 125. - -

18 John Mills . . . . . 384. 13. 4 . . . . . 490. 19. 2

21 Two setts of Bills to Philip Grymes Esq.r 700 and 600 . . . . . } 1300. . . . . 1690. - -

Dec.r 20 William Withers . . . . . 97. 13. 2 . . . . . 126. 19. 1½

7455 11 -

22377. 1. ½

December 22.d 1755 Errors Excepted

Dinwiddie [autograph]

[p8]

Endorsed in Lt. Gov.r Dinwiddie's Letter of Dec.r 24.th 1756. 1455 which Letter will be found in it's proper place in this Vol.me

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New Haven 30th Octobr. 1755 (49)

Sir

Your Favour of 19th June ultº, have received and are to acquaint you, that no Bills have been drawn by this Colony on the Pay-Master Generall, and that their Lordships Commands signified to us by your Letter shall be strictly attended and obeyed.

In our last dated 1st August ultº which hope is got safe to hand, You was acquainted with the proceedings of this Colony to that Time, Especially our raising one Thousand Men, with five hundred more to be raised to strengthen them if needed) to Join the Forces of the other New England Governments and New York to prevent and remove the French Encroachments made on his Majestys Lands at Crown Point, and the Iroquois Lake, so far as we had then gone.

We now begg leave to lay before you the proceedings & Events which have happened since. After the Troops had randezvoused at Albany and put things in readiness, they proceeded to the great Carrying Place on Hudson's River near Sixty Miles above, where they erected a Fort now called Fort Edward: The difficulty in getting Battoes up the River, and the great Labour occasioned by clearing

and mending the Roads to get up the Artillery stores, Provisions & Baggage, made it later than was expected before the work was finished; while the Army was there General Johnson received Intelligence of the Designs of the French to oppose him with a Force superior to ours, of which he acquainted the Governments concerned & requested strong Reinforcements from them. This Information and request came to us the 28th. of August at a Time our Assembly was covened, and on Consideration thereof, a Resolve was made to raise forthwith fifteen hundred Men, in addition to the five hundred that were then raising. Our Zeal and concern for his Majesty's Service moved us to Exert ourselves on this Emergency, beyond our Ability and proportion in relation to the other Colonies concerned, not knowing what any of them would do on this Emergency, and no Time left for Consultation, as an Engagement with the French and their Indians was soon to be expected; therefore great [p 10] Diligence was used, / And Alacrity shewn in filling up this two Thousand Men ... In the mean Time it happened that General Johnson moved foward cut and cleared a road to Lake St. Sacrament now called Lake George, but before any Fort could be built, or any Entrenchments were made, the Enemy consisting of Regular Troops from France; with Canadians, and their Indians to the Number of about two Thousand under the Command

of Le-Baron De-Diesheaw, Commander in Chief of all the French Troops in America, came against them, The French landed at a Place called South Bay, about twelve Miles from our Encampment, and took their rout towards Fort Edward; Our Reconnoiterers made Discovery the 4th Septr. ult.o that an Army were landed and moved forward that way and gave the Intelligence to our General, who by advice of his Council sent about one Thousand Men (including Indians) The next morning in nine O'Clock, to the Releif of the Fort (if in Distress), when our Men had marched between three and four miles, they were attacked, and after a smart fire on both sides, it was found our Men were overnumbered by the Enemy, and that a Retreat was necessary, and accordingly our Men fought bravely retreating till they came to the Camp, where such preparations were made as so short time would admitt, where our whole force consisting of about two Thousand Joined in the Fight; The Enemies Granadiers consisting of three hundred Men came forward and made the first and strongest Fire in Plattoons on the Front, and after they had fired twice in that manner, the Regulars took the cover of Trees & Loggs in like manner as the Canadians & Indians by whom

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they were supported, and continued a strong fire, while our Troops kept a continued fire on the Enemy and made use of some Field Peices, so that the Enemy were very warmly Entertained, and great Numbers of them slain and wounded: The Canadians and Indians made their most vigorous Attack on the right, while some tried the left and all round for an Opening, but found such a reception, that near Night the Enemy began to retreat and our Men to pursue and bring in Prisoners Arms &c; among the Prisoners their General is found badly if not mortally wounded, their Major General is killed, Mons^{r} St. Piere (Aid) who commanded the Canadians & Indians is also killed the same who commanded at the Ohio when M^{r}. Washington was defeated last [p. 11] Year and some say the same that commanded at the Defeat of General Braddock; and many other of their Officers and six or seven hundred of their Men are slain; The General & his Aid-de Camp (who is also a prisoner) say that almost all the Officers and Men of the Regulars were slain, some of their prisoners (of whom we took about sixty) say they have lost one Thousand; After the Enemy retreated from the Camp, a Number of the Canadians and Indians went back near

to the Place where the Fight began in the morn-ing, and were met by about Two hundred and fifty, coming from Fort Edward to our help on which another Encounter happened, The Enemy were defeated many of them killed, & consider-able Plunder taken from them, The whole loss on our side was about two hundred.

The Engagement was doubtless the hot-test that ever happened in this Country: Our Officers behaved with great bravery, and the sold-iers with Courage and Resolution; and happy for us they sustained their Posts, drove off and pursued the Enemy; our Troops were greatly fateagued with Action of so long continuance;

An Account of our Troops being attach-ed at the Lake came to this Colony the 11th Sept.r ult.o many of the Men raised for Re-cruits were directly sent forward, and the whole followed in a few Days; such was the Loyal Zeal and Ardour which appeared among the People, that some Companies of Volunteers went on the Service at their own private Expence; so that we had strong hopes by an Early pur-suit of an Enemy so lately defeated, to be soon [the] (this) possessed of the important pass at Crown Point: but such was the badness of the Roads and

difficulty of Carriage, that not all the Can-
-non, Artillery Stores, nor any considerable Sup-
-ply before hand of Provisions for our so greatly
augmented Force could be got from Albany to
the Lake, and the building some Fortifications
there and Sutable Vessels to transport the Ar-
-tilery &c Across Lake George and making discov-
-eries of the circumstances of the Enemy and
their proceedings, impeded the progress of our
Troops, Notwithstanding the strongest Efforts.

His Excellency Sr. Charles Hardy soon af-
-ter he arrived at New York went in Person
[p.12] to Albany, used his Assistance /And influence/
to enable the Troops to go forward, but the seas-
-on of the Year is so far advanced and so
many difficulties intervening, that our Men
have been of late employed in constructing a
defensible Fort at Lake George to be garrisoned
through the winter, to secure and maintain the
Ground for the further progress of an Army at
another Season. Commissioners are appointed
here and Advise of it sent to the Neighbouring
Colonies, that there may be a meeting at New York
in November next, to meet also with his Excellency
Major General Shirley (who hath noticed us that
he will be there, and with such other of the

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE

Governors of the Colonies as shall be present to consult the best Measures for the general Interest of the common cause for his Majestys Service.

This Colony came chearfully into the projection to join with the other Colonies to remove the French Encroachments on his Majesty's Lands at Crown Point and Lake Iroquois, knowing the great Annoyance these Colonies have received from the French especially since the Fort hath been erected at Crown Point; and apprehending Eminent danger that they would make an Attempt on Albany who could not stand out long, and gain the possession of the Mohawk River and thereby secure the Indians of the six Nations into their Interest whereby the Fort at Oswego would be Lost and consequently the great Lakes fall entirely into the Hands of the French, which must necessarily cost a very great Sum to regain. .. Our Real Resolution and Loyalty prompted us to go even beyond our Abilities and Strength rather than his Majesty's Interest should Suffer, and his undoubted Dominions in America be so greatly encroached upon. ... We ask Leave further to observe, that we came into this undertaking when we were not quite extricated out of the Debt occasioned by former Services; and

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by reason of the great Scarcity of Money have been obliged to have recourse to the Method of Emitting bills of Credit on the Colony, carry-ing £5 p^{r}. Ct. Interest, and have laid heavy Taxes on the People on every Year till the Year 1760. as sinking Funds, and thereby are ren-dred unable to bear the Expences which fur-ther proceedings must occasion. . . . . [p^{r}s] What we have already done and are doing to se-cure provisions for the next Season will at a moderate estimate amount to £80,000 Law-full Money. . . . We have near four Thousand Men gone from this Colony, whereof three Thou-sand and upwards are in the actual pay and Subsistance of this Colony . . . . The Colony of New York, apprehending they were unable seasonably to raise any recruits, and after-wards perceiving we had gone so far beyond our proportion therein, voted to contribute the Sum of £8000 New York Currancy towards the Expences attending our Reinforcement.

We hope a Universal Concurrance of all the British Colonies on this Continent, to exert themselves to remove and prevent the French Encroachments on his Majesty's Dominions, and thereby a great Recommendation of all to his

Royal Favour and Protection: among whom his Loyal Subjects of this Colony are Emulous to distinguish themselves by Zeal and Vigour in his Service, and the Firmest attachment to his Sacred Person and Government... We are small indeed, and Money very scarce with us, and our Numbers sent in his Majesty's Service hath occasioned the redoubled Toil & Diligence of those remaining to till the Field the princi-pal Source of our Subsistance

Our Industery ever so well applyed can't furnish subsist and pay another Armament, to which Arms fit for such use are greatly want-ing, as well as Amunition and Cloathing Especially Blankets; & the Scarcity of Money here is so Notorious as to threaten a Damp upon our warmest Ardours, & to render In-effectual our utmost Efforts for his Majesty's further Service.

In these Circumstances we are induced and con-strained to implore his Royal Favours & Bounty for our Re-lief, and take Liberty to inclose & beg your Favour to lay before his Majesty our humble Address for this purpose, and your kind offices to render the same acceptable.

And are Sir, / Your most Obed.t Humble Serv.ts

The Gov.r & Company of his Majesty's Colony of Connecticut

Tho.s Fitch Gov.r [Original signature]

To the Right Hon.ble S.r Tho.s Robinson

[p.m]
Endorsed Newhaven 20th Oct. 1755. / Mr. President
Fitch / Ry 2d Jan.y 1756.

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[p. 15]

To The Kings Most Excellent Majesty in Council.

The Humble Memorial and Petition of the Governor and Company of his Ma-jesty's English Colony of Connecticut in New England in America ...

Most Gracious Sovereign

We Your Majesty's dutifull and Loyal Subjects, The Governor and Company of Your Colony of Connecticut, Ask leave most thankfully to Acknowledge the many Instances of your Roy-al Concern and Regard for the Welfare and Security of Your American Dominions; And to express our greatful Sense of Your Firm Resolu-tion to maintain and defend Your undoubt-ed Rights against the Injurious Encroachments of the French upon Your British Dominions in North America: And humbly ask Liberty to re-present that this Your Majesty's Colony greatly concerned at such Encroachments, and especially sensible of the great Detriment which has been occasioned to Your Majesty's Interest, by the Fort-ress; called Fort St. Frederick erected by the French at Crown Point on the Iroquois Lake, and the repeated Annoyances these Colonies have suffered by means thereof, from the French and their

Indians, most chearfully came into a Reso-
-lution, in Conjunction with the other New Eng-
-land Governments and New York, to raise a
Body of Forces to remove this Encroachment,
to repel these Invaders of your Majesty's Rights,
and secure that Important Pass to the British
Crown, That as your Provincial Forces were pro-
-ceeding on this Enterprize, the French at Canada
(having gained Intelligence of their Motions) sent
against them a large and well appointed Num-
-ber of Troops consisting of Regulars from France,
Canadians, and Indians of diverse Nations under
the Command of the Baron De-Dieskeau who
came and fell on your Forces near the South
End of the Lake St. Sacrament now called Lake
George, On which a very warm fight happened,
wherein many of the Officers, and a great Num-
-ber of the Enemies Soldiers were Slain, Their Gen-
[p. 16] -eral taken, & a happy victory Obtained; / And
we humbly take Leave to congratulate your Ma-
-jesty on this happy Success against an Enemy
who boldly advanced into your Majesty's Terri-
-tories .... We further humbly beg Leave to
observe To your Majesty, That the proceedings of
our Enemies consisting of Troops from France as
well as Canada, occasioned a Necessity of large

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Reinforcements and the Zeal and Ardour of your Loyal Subjects of this Colony for Your Service, prompted us to Augment our Troops to Three Thousand in our Actual Pay and Subsistance, hoping by a forceable and Resolute Exertion of ourselves to obtain the desired Success, but such hath been the Hindrances that have fallen in our way and our Strength so far Exhausted that we are unable to proceed without your Majestys Gracious Interposition.

We therefore most humbly pray Your Majesty to grant Your Most Gracious Favour and Reguard to us, and smile on our undertaking for the Security of your Majestys Interest; and that Provision be made for prosecuting such Measures as may be found needfull to carry into Execution the Design to Secure that Important Pass to the British Crown.... And for Your Most Excellent Majesty Your Petitioners, as in Duty bound Shall Ever Pray —

In the Name and behalf of the Govr & Company of the Colony of Connecticut.

Thos Fitch Govr [original signature]

Endorsed in Mr President Fitch's /of the [Govr]
30th Octr 1755

Fort George New York Nov.r 27th 1755. Ep 19

Sir

I am now to acquaint you that I re-
turned to this City yesterday, after a long Resi-
dence at Albany, where I went with a Committee
of His Majestys Council soon after my Arrival to
this Government, to give every assistance in my
power for the forwarding the Expedition to Crownpoint.

Inclosed are Copys of the most material
Councils of War transmitted to me by General
Johnson, during my residence at Albany there, by which your
Excellency will see the principal causes that pre-
vented that Armys proceeding down the Lake George
in their way to Crown point.

Soon after my Arrival at Albany, I found
it necessary to Impress all the Waggons and Horses
round the Country, for supplying the Army with Pro-
visions; great numbers came in, but not sufficient
for laying in the necessary Stores, principally ow-
ing to the great number of Reinforcements coming
from the Massachusets, and Connecticut, after the
Battle on the 8th of September, and many from the
first mentioned Colony repairing to the Camp with-
out a supply of Provisions, being laid in there for
them; those from Connecticut were kept at and about
Albany waiting for the arrival of the Stores & Pro-
visions coming round by Sea, that did not arrive

in many Days after their Forces; the same circum-
-stances the Massachusets reinforcements were under,
with respect to their Provisions and Stores from Boston;
so circumstanced, your Excellency will observe the Im-
-practability (sic) of so large a Body of Men being pro-
-vided with a sufficient quantity of Provisions, and
Stores, by a land Carriage, furnished by this Pro-
-vince only; when at the same time General Shirleys
Expedition to Niagara called upon me to assist his
Commissarys with land Carriages also.

I am informed it was expected that the
Army when they first moved towards Lake George
from Albany, would have carried as much Pro-
-visions and Stores as their Battoes could have
conveyed, but am told the Waters of Hudsons River
[p.29] were then so low, as made that / Impracticable, this
delay before General Johnson was able to march I
apprehend to be one principal cause why the Army
did not move to attempt the carrying the Expedition
into Execution after the Arrival of their Reinforcements.

Thus farr I have endeavoured to give your
Excellency a full Account of the Difficultys General
Johnsons Army laboured under, with respect to Pro-
-visions and Stores, necessary for so large a Body
of Men.]

——— The Strength of the Enemy at Crown point,

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and the Pass at Tionderoga, on the North end of the Lake, your Excellency will find more parti-cularly sett forth in the Inclosed Councils of Warr, Informations, the General obtained by his Scouts, and from some few Deserters from the Marine Companys establish'd in Canada.

These Posts being so secured after the Ar-rival of the Forces under the Baron Dieskieu, (Dieskau) many of them assembled at Crown point, leads me to belive the Army under General Johnson had they been in a condition to have moved forward, (and had had their Battoes at the Lake which they never could get, for want of Carriages to transport them from Fort Edward, where 400 of them lay) would have met with such a Reception, that I doubt whether it would have been prudent for them to have made the attempt, for though it may appear to your Excellency upon the Face of the Council of Warr of the 12th. of October, that the Army at Lake George consisted of 3600 Men, at Fort Edward 500, Reinforcements at and about Albany 2500, in all amounting to 6600. I must observe that the Army at the Camp never amounted to near that number, and the most General Johnson could have had with him, fitt for Service as ap-pears by the Council of Warr of the 20th. of October

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would have been 4000, and that at times the Scouts gave him intelligence that the Enemy were three Thousand, besides a body at an advanced Post consisting of One Thousand mostly Indians.

From these Informations and the opinion of the Officers in their Councils of Warr, I judged it proper to recommend to Genl. Johnson to attack the advaneed Post of the Enemy, how farr they judged
[p 2] this measure / practicable I beg leave to referr you to the Inclosed Council of Warr. of the 30th. of Octo. -ber, from this Council I plainly saw it would be in vain to expect the Army would make any at. -tempt on the Enemy, and as I received informa. -tion that Commissioners were coming to Albany from the Massachusetts, and Connecticut, to deter. -mine the destination of their several Forces for the Winter, in conjunction with the other Govern. -ments concerned in the Expedition, I judged it ne. -cessary to delay my return here, to meet those Com. -missioners, for to fix on the proper Garrisons for the securing the Forts at the great Carrying Place, and that on the South end of the Lake George, till his Majestys Pleasure should be known con. -cerning them; this meeting was held on the 2d the result, the Inclosed Copy will fully inform you of, I shall only beg leave to observe to you, that the

Forces of the Massachusets Bay are under a limi-
-itted Inlistment General Shirley assured me, and
the Commissioners present, that he would on his
return to his Government use his influence with
the General Court, that Provision should be made
for their Forces to be left in Garrison, or others
sent in their room.

Having thus farr given you the best in-
-formation in my power with relation to this Ex-
-pedition to Crown point, I shall only beg leave to
observe to you, that though the Army under the
Command of General Johnson has not been able
to reach Crown Point this year they have advan-
-ced the Frontiers of His Majestys Dominions by
building two very respectable Forts, at the Expence
of the Provinces.

As to the several points necessary for
me to lay before you, respecting our future Ope-
-rations, I must beg the suspension of your Ex-
-cellencys Judgment till I can collect the proper Au-
-thenticated Papers to transmit to you, which I have
not time to do by this Conveyance.

What Efforts the Provinces will make to carry
this Expedition into Execution next Year, I am not
able at this time to inform you of, though I fear
general disappointments of this, may make them rather

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backward, and more if they find they are not assist-
-ed by more able and Experienced Generals, than
are at present on this Continent. I must beg your
Excellency will not imagine I mean to attack the
Conduct of any General Officers who have been con-
-cerned this Year, but to offer my humble opinion
which my Duty calls on me to do, in matters/ of
[p.02] this Importance. Military Opperations I believe to be
very little understood in these Countrys, and they
not only want able & Experienced Officers to Conduct
them, but to advise them in making the necessary
preparations for them.

I must beg leave to lay before you in jus-
-tice to General Johnson that he has undertaken this
Service, as well the care of the Indians, without any
reward or pay.

Your Excellencys Letter of the 26th July and one
of the 28 August I have received and shall take care
punctually to observe their Contents.

I have the honour to be/ Sir.

Your most Obedient /and humble Servant

Chas Hardy

[endorsed]

P.S. The Baron Deshieu (sic)
is now here, but the Surgeons
report, there is but little hopes
of their perfecting a cure

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The Papers I inclose to your Excellency are as follows. viz^{t}

Copy of the agreement made at Albany for Dis-
-charging the Forces under General Johnson, ex-
-cept 600 for Garrissons for Forts Edward and
William Henry

Minutes of Counsil of War held at the Camp at Lake George
the 11th & 12 Oct^{r} 1755

D^{o} . . . . . D^{o} . . . . 20th & 21 D^{o}.

D^{o} . . . . . D^{o} . . . . 30 D^{o}.

D^{o} . . . . . D^{o} . . . . 18 Nov^{r}.

The Right Hon^{ble} Sir Thomas Robinson.

Endorsed Fort George New York / Nov^{r}. 24th. 1755. / Gov^{r}.
Hardy / Rd 3^{d}. Jan^{y}. 17 56.

REPRODUCED FROM THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

[p.29]

Head Quarters Camp at Lake George

18th: November 1755. A: M

At a Council of War held by General Johnson.

Present

The General	Capt.n Eyre
Major General Lyman	Capt.n Glazier
Col. Plaisted	
Col. Harris	
Col. Cockcraft	
Col. Bagley	
Col. Dyer	
Col. Chauncey	
Lieut. Col. Whiting	
Lieut. Col. Cummins	

Peter Wraxall Secr.y

The General having been apprized by several of the Field Officers of the Connecticut Troops that the said Troops insisted on their dismission from this Service agreeable to the Votes of their Legislature, and the Generals promise to them the Day after to-morrow. The General desired the Opinion and Advice of this Council of War what Measures were most advisable to pursue with regard to the Quota of Connecticut for garrisoning Fort William Henry and Fort Edward and for retaining the other Troops in case they shou'd refuse to stay as it is apprehended they will

when the Connecticut Troops march off.

The Question was put what Number of Men this Council of War thought sufficient to Garrison Fort William Henry and Fort Edward. —

500 Voted for Fort William Henry.

400 Voted for Fort Edward.

[p2v] The Question was put whether the General be advised to send a Gentleman from this Army to Albany to represent to the Governors and Commissioners there the State of this Army and to know their Resolution as to the future Destination thereof.

Unanimously resolved in the Affirmative and that Col. Chauncey and Col: Whitcomb do go down upon this Errand.

Voted that this Council of War understand that the Dismission of any Part of this Army shall be suspended 'till some determinate Orders arrive from the Commissioners at Albany or till Col: Chauncey and Col. Whitcomb return or dispatch an Account of their Negotiation.

Peter Wraxall

A True Copy from the Original Minutes
Examined by me

Peter Wraxall / Secr.y

A true Copy Exam.d By
Lt.W Banyar Dep.t Con

Head Quarters

Camp at Lake George

Thursday Evening 30th. Octob: 1755

At a Council of War held by General Johnson where-
to all the Field Officers in Camp were summoned.

Present

The General	Col. Cockcraft	Absent by Sickness.
Major General Lyman	Col. Bagley	
Col. Harris	Col. Plaisted	
Col. Dyer	Col. Browne	
Col. Chauncey	Lieut. Col. Fry	
Lieut. Col. Cole	Major Richardson	
Lieut. Col: Worster	Lieut. Col. Ward	
Lieut. Col. Commins	Lieut. Col. Whitcomb	
Lieut. Col. Nichols	Major Payson	
Lieut. Col. Whiting		
Major Champlin		
Major Kingsbury		
Major Gage		
Major Miller		

Capt. Eyre Chief Engineer &c. Capt. Glazier Adjut. Genl.
Peter Wraxall secr.

The General acquainted this Council of War that as by the Minutes of One held here the 18 and 19. Instant the Consideration of his Proposal concerning an Attack upon Ticonderoga or the Enemy's advanced Guard posted on this Side the carrying Place, was postponed

REPRODUCED FROM THE ... OF THE ...

'till further Intelligence was obtained; he now laid be-
-fore this Council of War, Captn. Rogers and Company's
relation of their Scout to Crown Point, and Captn. Do-
-little's Account of his reconnoitring Party towards Ticonderoga.

The General hereupon desires this Council of War will now take into their Consideration, the first Article proposed by him in the said Minutes of the 18 Instant (which were read to the Council from the Original) and give him their Opinion agreable to his said Proposal as therein minuted. —

The General made the following previous Ob-
-servations to this Council of War —

1. That the Information of the German Deserter, who was brought into this Camp and the five others who were carried to Fort Edward, are all uni-
-formly positive that the advanced Guard of the Enemy do not exceed 80 Men. And that our Scouts have reconnoitred at such a Distance in such Circumstances, that their Accounts particularly as to this advanced Guard, may be supposed to be very inaccurate. —

2 That it appears to him, the taking or cutting off this advanced Guard or Party, is a feasible At-
-tempt, and what the Duty and honour of this Army call for, and incumbent upon him to recom-
-mend to their favourable Attention, that he has ordered

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a Survey of the Batteaux, and 85 are returned to him as fit for Service. —

3 That if this Attempt should succeed (which he thinks if well conducted it may) it will not only raise the Reputation of this Army in the Eyes both of Friends and Enemies, but discourage the latter, tend to increase our Influence and Consequence amongst our allied Indians weaken the French Indian Interest and probably prevent many scalping Parties from disturbing our out Settlements this ensuing Winter.

The General also laid before this Council of War, a Letter to him from Col. Peter Gilman Commanding the new Hampshire Reinforcements now at Albany, and the Minutes of a Council held by Sir Charles Hardy at Albany—

Upon which he desired the Opinion of this Council of War, whether they think it adviseable for him to dismiss the said Reinforcements from this Service. —

Upon the first Article referred to in the Minutes of the Council of War of the 18 and 19 Instant.— This Council of War give their Opinion that both attacks are not adviseable.

Voted that the further Consideration of this Article be deferred 'till further Intelligence is obtained which is daily expected by Capt. Rogers and his Party gone down the Lake or by any other Means. [4.29]

With regard to the new Hampshire Reinforcements

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the Council of War are unanimously of Opinion that they be not yet a while dismissed, as the State of this Army has been transmitted and referred to the Consideration of the several Governments concerned, and as it would cause a general Uneasiness among the rest of the Troops.

Peter Wraxall secr.y

A true Copy from the Original
Minutes Examined by me
Peter Wraxall
Secr.y

A true Copy Exam.d By
Gw Banyar DSecry

[p. 20]
Endorsed Camp at Lake George / October 30: 1755 / Minutes of Council of War in Gov.r Hardy's of the / 24th Nov.r 1755

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Camp at Lake George Monday Evening
20th October 1755./

At a Council of War summoned by Ma.
-jor General Johnson./

Present

Major General Lyman
all the Field Officers at this Camp (except
Colo. Willard and Lieut. Colo. Whitcomb ab.
-sent by Sickness and Major Richardson.
Capt. Eyre chief Engineer Va.
Capt. Glazier Adjutant General
Major Doughty of a Massachusets Regiment
at Albany.

Peter Wraxall secry

The General having summoned this Council of War and by reason of his ill state of health being unable to attend it personally, desires Major General Lyman to preside, and has directed Capt. Peter Wraxal (Sic) his Secretary and Aid De Camp, to lay be.-fore this Council of War the following Letters and Papers which are just now come to his hands by an express from Albany.

1st A Letter from Sir Charles Hardy Governor of New York now at Albany with the Minutes of a Council he called there.

2d A Letter from Governor Fitch of Connecticut

3. A Letter from Col: Oliver Partridge from Albany, who is there as an Agent from the Committee of War of the Province of Massachusets Bay.

4. A Letter from Col: Peter Gilman of a New Hampshire Regiment of Reinforcements arrived at Albany.

[p. 39] Upon which the General desires they will in particular advise him what Answer they think proper for him to make to the following paragraph in Col.o Patridges Letter.

"I also informed Governor Hardy of what I "was charged with from the Province, and had his "advice to send an express to your Honour, to know "whether it is possible to go thro' with the Expe- "dition this Fall, if the Provisions and Stores were "Speedily sent up, I must beg your Honour's Answer "to this Important Question that I may know how "to Govern myself in the Affairs committed to my charge, "and I think I may assure your Honour that the "Stores on the part of Massachusets shall not be wanting."

The President put the Question whether it was advisable to proceed with the Expedition this Fall.

Voted in the Negative for the following reasons.

Adjourned to 5 o'Clock to morrow evening

21 (Dec.) 5 o'Clock met according to Adjournment

Present as Yesterday

In the first place beg leave to refer to a report

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of the State of the Army as unanimously agreed to by a Council of War the 11th and 12th Instant, Lately Transmitted to the several Governments for their Consideration with respect to the decrease of the Waggons, Increase of the badness of the Roads, difficulty of passing the Rivers &c.

And now would farther add that our Supplys since have been and still are decreasing, the River raised, the Road worse, and no Forrage for Horses employed in this Service.

2 Before it would be possible by the whole united Force of all the Governments concerned, to afford us a proper Supply, which we apprehend would not be possible till the middle of November nor even then, the Lake would be in danger of Freezing or the Winds high and boisterous, which would endanger the loss of our Army by Water, and especially our Artillery, and by a Small scum of Ice prevent our passage, or cutt off all manner of Supply of provisions which might if our Army gone forward leave us in a desperate Situation.

3. Our Soldiery in General by their long incampment here by reason of our Transports not Arriving at Albany, and the difficulty of Transporting the provisions here from thence, being thereby Subjected to cold and wet, without any lodging but the Ground, but one blanket to lye on and to cover, and many

none at all. Whereby and other tramp difficulties near one third of our Army are Sick and unfitt for duty, their Spirits exhausted their Strength and vigour enervated that if now a full Supply of Comfortable Lodging and Cloathing was here their General recovery cannot be soon expected.

4. Several Cannon necessary for the Expedition yet at Albany Shells, Shot, powder, and upwards of four hundred Battoes at Fort Edward yet to bring fruward, which before this time could not be got here without exposing the Army to Suffer for want of Provisions, and Still to bring forward, will Stop such a proportion of Carriage for provsions as will be employed for that service.

5. If our whole recruits were here arrived, so many being dismised as Invalids and worn out in the Service, The present sick here, necessary Attendants for them, with what must prudently be left in Garrison at Fort Edward and here, would reduce our Army able to go forward, to not more than four thousand, and by the best Intelligence from our Scouts who have had a criticall View at Tienonderoga, the Enemy amount to three thousand, and a thousand more Chiefly Indians at an advanced Post forward, both properly intrenched and preparing for the best defence, the attention of the Enemy now drawn off from the Eastward

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REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

ꝑ Westward, are able to afford them a large rein-
-forcement as we are not able to make any prepar-
-ations here without their Intelligence.

But on the whole if our several Govern-
-ments for whom we are acting in whose Interest lies
our own, in whose [p. 88] service we are, and whom we
are willing to serve to Death when call'd, if they
can remove those principal Objections, or if not, as
we profess ourselves under their Instructions, they ad-
-vise us to press forward, Our own lives we will
Risque and willingly Submit the Event./

[But to conclude we with the utmost Sub-
-mission apprehend, that to have had this Expedition
Succeeded our Recruits should have been sooner raised,
the provisions and all other needful preparations
previously made and gone forward, that they all ar-
-riving in fresh Spirits and recruiting Vigour, not
Subjected to a long dull and Sickly Encampment
(the Bane of New England Men) would probably have
Surmounted all opposition and by the blessing of
Heaven had desired Success.

This Council of War desire the General will
transmit these Minutes to the Several Governments who
have Troops on this Expedition

P. Lyman.

Peter Wraxall secry

The Council gave it as their Opinion the 18 pdrs now at Albany should not be immediately sent up but remain for further orders.

Peter Wraxall secry

A true Copy from the Original
Examined by me Peter Wraxall secry

A true Copy Exam^{d} By
Lyw Banyar Dlot Cond

Endorsed Camp at Lake George/20 and 21st. October 1755 /Minutes of Council of War in Gov^{r} Hardy's of /the 27th Nov^{r}. 1755.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LI[illegible]SS

Camp at Lake George 11 October 1755

P.M.

At a Council of War held in General Lyman's Tent

Present

General Lyman president

All the Field officers in Camp

except Lieut. Colo. Ward & Lieut. Colo. Whitcomb

absent by sickness.

Capt. Eyre Engineer Genl. &c.a

Capt. Glazier Adjutant Genl.

Peter Wraxall Secretary.

General Lyman acquainted this Council of War, that application having been made by himself and sundry Field Officers now present to General Johnson to call a Council of War upon the following Articles.

1. To take into consideration the present state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto.

2. Whether it is not best immediately to inform the Governments concerned in the Expedition thereof and desire their orders as to future proceedings.

3. To consider whether it is not best to dismiss a Number of Invalids from the service.

General Johnson had by reason of his present Indisposition desired him to preside at this Council of War, and to make a Report of their proceedings. whereupon General Lyman desired this Council of War to take

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[p 36]

Camp at Lake George 11th Octr. 1755.

Hond Sir.

We would humbly propose to your Honour to call a Council of War to consider of the present state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto, and whether it is not best immediately to inform the Governments concerned in the Expedition thereof and desire their Orders as to future proceedings, and to consider whether it is not best to dismiss a number of Invalids from the service and am

Your Honours

most Obedt. hum. Servts.

P. Lyman

Seth Pomroy

Elipt Dyer

Elihu Chauncey

Nathan Whiting

John Pithin.

To the Honble William Johnson
Commander in chief of the
Army at Lake George.

A true copy Examined
by me
Peter Wraxall
Secry

[Camp]

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Camp at Lake George 11 October 1755

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the foregoing Articles into their serious consideration and give their Opinion on the same.

It is the opinion of this Council of War, that a Member of this Council from each province be appointed a Committee to draw up a / particular [p. 264] state of this Army, and all circumstances relating there-to, and make a Report of the same to this Coun-cil of War at their next meeting. And the following Gentlemen were appointed to be that Committee

Colo Bagley for Massachusets Bay

Colo Dyer for Connecticut

Colo Leocheraft for New York

Major Champlin for Rhode Island

The Council deferred their opinion upon the second Article till the Committee had delivered their Report upon the first.

Upon the third Article this Council of War are of opinion, that all such Soldiers as are unfit for duty, and are not likely to be of any service to the Army this Fall, may have a Furlow to return home from the Command-ing Officer of each Regiment with the Gen-erals approbation

The Council of War was then Adjourned by the presidt to 6 Clock to Morrow Evening.

[12 October]

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[12 October Sunday Evening about 6 oblock

Present

Major General Lyman

All the Field Officers in

Camp except Lieut. Col° Ward and Lieut Col° Whitcomb

Major Payson added to the Council

Capt. Tyre and Capt. Glazier.

Peter Wraxall Secretary.

The Committee delivered in their Report of the particular state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto, which was read to the Council and is as follows.

Whereas the Council of War have appointed and chosen us William Ticheraft, Capt. Dyer, Jonathan Bayly, and Christopher Champlin, as a Committee to take into consideration the present state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto, and make Report thereof to the said Council. We in consequence thereof make the following Report.]

We find that our Army at present Encampt near Lake George, including the Reinforcements already arrived consists of about 3600 Men, the Garison now at Fort Edward of 500 men, and the recruits at Albany and on their March hither of about 2500 Men, the whole amounting to 6600. whereof by the several returns from the Regiment here, and at Fort Edward, it appears that about 900 are unfit for duty, besides many

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others who must soon inevitably be rendered incapable of Duty, thro want of proper Lodging, Bedding, Watch-coats, and other [p 2] necessaries against the inclemency of the Weather to which they are continually exposed, in Camp duty, in building the Fort mending the Roads, Advanced and scouting parties, in all which different services they cannot have the use of fire.

[As to the Grand and important point of Provisions, it is notorious from returns of the several Commissaries from time to time given in, the Army in General has never at any time (since their Encampment at Lake George) been possessed of two Weeks provisions advance, (saving the Article of Meat,) notwithstanding the utmost efforts used by his Excellency Governor Hardy at Albany, in impressing Waggons and furnishing the Convoys, and that too when the weather was favourable and the Roads Waggons and Horses all in good order, much less can we now expect to have such a supply of Provisions, when our Troops are considerably Augmented, the inclemency of the Weather daily encreasing, and the Roads in many places almost impassable, numbers of Waggons broke and destroyed, many horses killed and worn out in the service, and from the present season of the year, heavy rains may be daily expected, when the three Branches of the Mohawks River, and Hudsons River at Saraghtoga

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will be rendered impassable, but admitting all our former Advantages were still to continue, yet before it could be possible to get up from Albany provisions for the present Consumption and also a Sufficiency for the Army to proceed, the season would be so far advanced, that it would be morally impossible to undergo the rigour of the Weather.

The above Considerations are humbly submitted to the honourable Members of the Council of War by their

most Obed.t hum.l Serv.ts

William Eyre. Lt
Eliph.t Dyer
Jonathan Bagley
Chris: Champlin.

Camp Lake George
October 12.th 1755 ....

The foregoing Report was unanimously accepted by this Council of War] as containing the present state of this Army and all circumstances relating thereto.

Upon the second Article [this Council of War are unanimously of Opinion that the General be advised to transmit the Minutes of this Council, to the several Governments concerned and desire their orders as to future proceedings.

P. Lyman.

Peter Wraxall Secry

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A true Copy from the Original Examined
by me. Peter Wraxall Secry

Copy Exam^d By
Lyd Banyar D Secry

[p. 28]
Endorsed Camp at Lake George / Oct^r 11^th 12 – 1755 /
Minutes of Council of War
in Gov^r Hardy's of the / 27. Nov^r 1755

[4.29]

At a Meeting held at Albany on Thursday the 20th. day of November 1755.

Present

His Excelleney Major General Shirley Com-mander in chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North America and Governor of the Province of Massachusets Bay

His Excelleney Sir Charles Hardy Knight Gov-ernor of the Province of New York.

The Hono^ble James Delancey Esq^r. Lieutenant Governor and one of his Majesty's Council of the Province of New York.

The Hono^ble Daniel Horsmanden	of his Majesty's Coun-cil for the Province of New York
The Hono^ble John Rutherfurd	
The Hono^ble James Meriott	Commissioners from the Province of the Massachusets Bay
John Choat Esq^r.	
Oliver Partridge Esq^r.	
Samuel Lovermore Esq^r.	
Benjamin Hall Esq^r.	Commissioners from the Colony of Con-necticut
John Hubbard Esq^r.	

Unanimously agreed that the Army under the Command of Major General Johnson destin'd against Crown Point, excepting 600 or such further number as shall be agreed to by the (also) Commissioners from the Massachusets Bay New York & Connecticut now go-ing to the Camp in conjunction with the Field

Officers there, be discharged: And that previous to said discharge the said number be engaged or draught-ted out of the Troops in order to garrison Fort Edward on the great Carrying Place, and Fort Wil-liam Henry at Lake George; the said number to be detained no longer than their respective Inlistments [p.86] to the Governments whence they were raised, to serve under such Officers as shall be agreed to by said Commissioners; the said Officers to receive their Orders from Major General Johnson, and serve as Detach-ments for the purposes aforesaid. And that each Forts Proportion of said Troops be determined by a Council of War, with the Concurrence of the ma-jor part of said Commissioners.

That the Troops for garisoning the said Forts as aforesaid be paid and subsisted by the several Governments concerned in the Expedition in the following Proportion Viz.t

Massachusets Bay-	195
Connecticut ——	154
New York ——	123
New Hampshire ——	44
Rhode Island ——	61
	600

And if a greater number be found necessary; to be paid and subsisted in like Proportion.

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And that the said Commissioners proceed to the Camp at Lake George as soon as may be for the Purposes aforesaid.

A true Copy Exam.d By
Wm Alexander Secry

New York. A true Copy Exam.d By
Lyd Bamyar D Secry

Endorsed 20 November 1755. Albany Copy/ Agree-
-ment for discharging /the Forces under General/
Johnson except 600 for /Garisons for Forts Edward &/
William Henry
in Gov.r Hardys of the 24th. Nov.r 1755.

REPRODUCED FROM THE ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT

[page]

Halifax 30th November 1755.

Sir,

In my last of the 10th of November 1755, Duplicate of which I now inclose, I had only time to acknowlege in general, that I had the honour to receive your several Dispatches, dated in July and August last; which I now take an opportunity more particularly to answer.

I immediatly executed the orders contained in your Letter of the 26th of July, by putting the Inhabitants upon their Guard, against any Mischief that may be apprehended from an open Rupture with the Crown of France; and have used my best endeavours, to make such a Disposition of our Military Force, as to prevent his Majesties Subjects being molested, during the Approaching Winter. You may be assured Sir, [page] of my Diligence, in transmitting to you every material Circumstance or Intelligence, concerning the Motions and proceedings of the French, that I can possibly learn.

The Contents of your Letter of the 30th of July, have given me the greatest Satisfaction it is possible to receive; It is difficult for me to express, the high sense I have of the Honour his Majesty has done me, in being pleased to Approve

my Conduct; You may be assured Sir, the Dili-
-gence and Fidelity I have ever used, in order to
obtain so great a Mark of his Royal Favor,
shall not for the future be wanting to preserve it.

I beg leave to return my most grateful
Acknowledgements, for the Approbation of the Lords
[p56] Justices; I shall take the earliest /opportunity to
-acquaint Lt Colonel Monckton, and the Troops un-
-der his Command, with the Honor his Royal
Highness, and their Excellencys have been pleased
to confer on them; it will doubtless encourage
them to proceed with fresh Zeal and Vigour, in
his Majesties Service, when occasion may Offer.

When I made mention in my Letters, of
the Dilemma I was under, in not knowing how
to defray the Charge of Levy Money for the Aug-
-mentation, I had then received Orders from Major
General Braddock, to compleat the Regiments to
One thousand Men each; which Orders I was very
Anxious to execute; but was not then informed,
what fund I was to draw upon for that pur-
-pose; but I have since, had that affair perfectly
[p56] explained to me, by a /Letter from the Deputy Pay
Master at Boston, from whom now, the Recruiting
Officers receive the necessary Sums of Money. — I
very much fear the progress they will make in

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recruiting, will be but slow; as such Numbers of Men have lately been raised upon the Continent, for the Services under Major General Braddock, Major General Shirley and the Army destin'd for Crown Point, under the Direction of Wm. Johnson.

I shall most punctually observe the Orders of the Lords Justices, in applying regularly to the Commander in Chief in North America, if I should be in want of Money for levying Troops or otherwise.

In regard to the Word <u>Pardonné</u>, in the fourth Article of the Capitulation of Beausejour, mentioned in your Letter of the 13th. of August, I apprehend nothing was further understood by it, either on one part or the Other, but that the French Inhabitants found in Arms in the Fort, should not be put to Death; for tho Lt. Colonel Monckton was told, before he set out, that the deserted French Inhabitants were to be driven out of the Country, in order to prevent his giving them any pretence or hopes, either by Capitulation or otherwise, of being reestablished in their possessions; Yet it was never intended, to precipitate Measures so far, as to drive them into Dispair, or to cause their flight to Canada: But in this place, it will be proper to explain,

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what part of the Inhabitants are included un-
-der the denomination of the Deserted French Inhabitants.

[p56] When the French Troops first took post at Beausejour, (where they soon after built their Fort,) their principal View, was to secure to them-
-selves the North side of the Bay of Fundy; to fix the Isthmus of Chignecto for our Boundary; and to cover the retreat of such French In-
-habitants, as had an inclination to retire from the English Government and join them. There were indeed Originally, some French Inhabitants who lived on that side the Bay; but as the Land is not esteem'd very Fertile, and but small quan-
-titys of it clear'd, (in comparison with the other French Settlements in the Provinces,) they were but few in Number: When the English Troops in the year 1750, went to take possession of that

[p57] part of Chignecto (the French admitted to be ours, the Inhabitants of that part, who were numer-
-ous, & possess'd a fine fertile Country, burned all their Houses, & went over with their Famil-
-ies, upon the Land that the French claimed; and in conjunction with the original Inhabitants of that Side, took an Oath of Alledgiance to the French King, and bore Arms under the Direction of his Officers; these people who were joined by

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Several Families, deserted from their settlements in the interiour parts of the Province, amount-ing, by the best observation & Intelligence, to fourteen hundred Men capable of bearing Arms; were by us commonly called the Deserted French Inhabitants; because they were universally, as well as the other Inhabitants, the descendants of those French left in Nova Scotia, at the time of the Treaty of Utrecht; and had taken the [p. 60] oath of Allegiance to His Majesty, in the time of General Phillipps's Government, with the re-serve of not bearing Arms: Notwithstanding which, these people quitted their possessions, and went voluntarily to live on that side the Bay un-der French Government; where they had no other means of Subsistance, but an Allowance of Salt provisions from the King out of the French Stores. It was with these Inhabitants alone, that Lieutenant Colonel Monckton had any thing to do; for we could not easily at that time, form any Conjecture, what turn the Inhabitants, who were nearer to us would take, upon the Surrender of Beau-sejour; when it was thought they could enter- [p. 61] -tain no further Hopes of assistance from the French: But when we found the French Inhabitants, who had not deserted their Lands, entertained the same

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disloyal Sentimentō, with those who had; and positively rejecteā the oath of Allegiance; we thought it high time to resolve, (as well for His Majesties Honour, as the immediate preservation of the Province) that the whole French Inhabitants, as well those who had not deserted, as those who had, should be embarked on board Transports, to be sent out of the Province, and dispersed among the neighbouring Colonies. By much the greater part of them are sailed, and I flatter my self by this time the whole. I will not trouble you with any further account of this Measure, having already had the honor to lay it very
[f. 52]
fully before you in my Letter of the 18th. of October, & the minutes of Council therein enclosed; a Duplicate of which, I transmitt by this Opportunity.

I have already acquainted you Sir, in my Letter of the 10th. of Novemr, that I had received the Ten Thousand pounds, of which you inform me in your Letter of the 13th. of August. I am highly sensible of the great Honor the Lords Justices have been pleased to do me, in reposing so much confidence in me; I shall endeavour to deserve it, by using every means of Oeconomy, and applying it Solely to those uses they have been pleas'd to direct. We had before

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made a considerable progress in the Fossé and [p. 53]
coverd /way of the Fort of Beausejour, and
when it is Finished, I shall proceed no far-
-ther, till I have the Honor to receive His
Majesties Orders.

The securing and Embarking such a prodigious number of French Inhabit.s and the circumstances of the Province in General, has prevented my being able, to send any party to St. John's River this Year; it has been visit-ed by his Majesties Ships, to see that the French do not reestablish themselves; and I propose in the Spring, if nothing unexpected should prevent it, to repair the Fort there, and Garrison it with as many Troops as can be spared. The Indians of that District were in Compliance with their promise, set out for [p. 54]
Halifax, and came as far on their way/as Chignecto, but returned again; having, as is supposed, met with some French Emissarys, who persuaded them to take that Step.

I shall be extremely punctual, in giv-ing the fullest Information to Major Genl. Shirley, of the progress made in the repair of the Forts; and in transmitting to you, Accompts of the Expence as frequently as possible.

I should long since have had the honor of transmitting you particular Accompts of the Stores and provisions taken at Beausejour & Gasparau; but Lieut Colonel Monckton has been so much employed, in Embarking the Inhabitants, [p 58] and other Services, that he has not had time / to get them copied and transmitted: I now expect him here every Day, & shall avail my self of the first opportunity afterwards, to forward a Regular Return of such Stores and Provisions.

I now come to the acknowlegement of your Letter of the 28th of August, signifying Major General Shirleys Succeeding the late Major Genl Braddock as Commander in Chief of His Majesties Forces in North America: I Shall forthwith transmit Copies to him, of my Correspondence with Genl Braddock; and most Strictly conform my self to the Orders, I have the honor to receive from you upon that Subject.

I am with the highest consideration and respect

Sir / Your most obedient and

most humble Servant

Chas Lawrence

[autograph]

The Rt Honble Sr Thos Robinson

[p 59]

Endorsed Halifax 30th Novr 1755 / Lt Govr Lawrence / Ry 5. Janry 1756. / original

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS

[p.59]

Sir/

As I have received many other papers from Philadelphia, besides those I had the honour to send you the other day, I thought it proper to send Coppys of them, and an extract of the last Letter I have received from Mr. Norris, that you may have all the intelligence in my power to give of the State of publick affairs in Pennsylvania. I am with great respect

Sir

Your most humble and
most obedient Servant
Tho Penn

Spring Garden
January 17. 1756.

The Right Honourable Henry Fox Esqr.

Endorsed Spring Gardens Jan.y 14th 1756. [p.62]
Mr. Penn.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mr. Penn sends enclosed Coppys of Min-
-utes of Council containing Conference with the
Indians on Sasquehannah, in the presence of
the Assembly of Pennsylvania, also a Remon-
-strance from the Mayor and Commonalty of
Philadelphia demanding a Militia Law, and a
petition from several of the people called Quakers
desiring Taxes may not be laid for Military
purposes, which papers he received just before
he last had the honour of waiting upon Mr. Fox.
He has yesterday Letters giving an account that
the Indians continue their outrages on Plantations,
and that the Governor and Assembly have
agreed upon a Bill for raising money for the
publick Service and were taken measures to re-
-pell the Indians.

Spring Garden
Jan^{y} 13. 1756./

Extract of a Letter from Shippensburgh.

The five Nations are determind to har-
-rass us. they are very industrious in getting
Shawonese, Delawares and Cherokees, and every
other Nation they can have access to, in a Scheme
of giving all the adjacent Colonies such diversion
in conjunction with the French on Ohio, or rather
at their request, as will if they are able to exe-
-cute it oblige us to come upon Terms with them,
I mean the Indians, for they find before this Ex-
-pedition is settled, if they are neuter, that the
Lands on the Ohio will be in the hands of the
English or French, and that now or never is
their time to put in for a Share, the Shawonese
and Delawares have accepted their proposals, and
are the People who have committed the Cruelties
on the Branches of Potowmec, Cove and Conego-
-chege, and if they are permitted to distress us,
they intend to strike Lines with us, and after-
-wards to fall foul of the French, and drive them
out of that part of the Country, the five Nations
intend to be Neuter as to annoying our Inhabi-
-tants, until they see what Success their Allies
have, I fear next Spring we shall have a
melancholy time.

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[p. 68]

Endorsed Secret Intelligence rec.d /from
Shippensburgh

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(p.64)

To the Representatives of the Freemen of the Pro-
-vince of Pennsylvania, in Assembly met,

A Remonstrance by the Mayor, Aldermen,
and Common Council, of the City of Phila-
-delphia in behalf of the said City.

Gentlemen,

You were Lately called together upon a more urgent business than ever came before an Assembly of this Province; and while you have been sitting scarce a Day has passed, wherein you have not heard of the inhuman Slaughter of your Fellow Subjects, and been Loudly called upon for that protection, which by the most sacred ties you owe to the People. On such an Emergency, we imagined that you had an easy & expedit-
-ious mode of procedure before you; namely to postpone all disputes to a more seasonable time; to grant the necessary Supplies on such Terms, as those on which the rest of His Majesty's Colonies have granted large Sums for the Like purpose; and lastly to pass a reasonable Law in order to collect and regulate the force of the Province, for repelling the present cruel Invasions. Neverthe-
-less while you have been Deliberating, much In-
-nocent Blood hath been spilt, a great extent of

our Country Laid waste, & the miserable Inhabi-
-tants scattered abroad before the Savage Spoiler.

Wherefore in the most solemn manner,
before God, & in the name of all our Fellow Citi-
-zens, as you regard the Lives of the People whom
you represent, we Call upon you, we adjure you,
nay we supplicate you, to give that legal pro-
-tection to your bleeding Country, which ought to
be the chief Object of all Government at such
a perilous juncture as this. And let it be
[p4v] no longer / said that, while we are daily hear-
-ing so much concerning privilege and right,
we are in the meantime deprived of that most
essential Right and great first privilege (which
God & Nature gave Us) of defending our Lives
and protecting our Families.

We profess the same reasons for this
Application which determined many of the Inhabi-
-tants of this City to make a Like application to
you on the 12th Instant and as these reasons now
Lie before you, we need not repeat them any fur-
-ther than by observing that a well regulated Mi-
-litia has always been found both the surest &
least expensive Method of defence; and that upon
any other plan, great Sums of Money must be
thrown away to Little purpose, and the People

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thereby burthened with grievous Taxes.

Another reason for thus applying to you, is the great distress, which this City committed to our Care, is like to labour under by the vast encrease of the Poor from all Parts of the Country, and the melancholy prospect of having far greater numbers of the unhappy back Settlers driven in upon us from their Habitations & continually flying to the shelter & charity of the City as the place of greatest Safety. This must necessarily be prejudicial to the general Course of Business, and inhance the value of all Necessaries, by encreasing the number of Mouths, and at the same time diminishing the number of hands that should supply our Market, all which will prove a Burden upon us too heavy to bear.

Seeing therefore our Affairs are brought to such a Crisis, and as this our reasonable demand cannot require much time for your consideration, having already been so often made to you by Petitions from [p. 7] all parts of the Province; we do earnestly recommend dispatch to you. For as the people seem already in a deplorable and desperate Condition, we fear it will not be possible to preserve the peace and quiet of this

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City, nor of the Province itself much longer, if some effectual Methods are not speedily taken for their general Defence and Security.

By order of the Board

William Plumsted Mayor

Delivered Novr. 25th. 1755.

[p.72]

Endorsed Remonstrance by the Mayor/Alder-men &c, to the Assembly/of Pennsylvania/Novr. 25d. 1755.

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[p. 78]

The 22d Day of Novr 1755. David Siesberger (sic), on his solemn Affirmation, declareth and saith that Indian Jonathan the Day before yesterday came from Wyomen on Sasquehannah River to Gnadenhutten, & reported that the Indians Living on the River between Wyomen & Neskopeeky had observed and followed the Tract of a considerable number of Indians in their neighbourhood until they could discern by their Tracts that they had divided themselves & went several ways, in small Companies; whereupon the Indians met together in Council to consider what was best for them to do upon the occasion, that the result of their Council was that Jonathan should come down to Gnadenhutten and see if the Indians could safely come down among the white People, who they were afraid would suspect them for Enemies, if they should be seen several together and if they found they might safely come they would send 5 or 6 of their Chiefs to the Governor to inform him of what had past (sic), and of their fidelity to the English. That Jonathan yesterday returnd back to Wyomen & promised to be back again in 4 Days, to be assured if the Indians could be safely conducted

to Philadelphia, and this Affirmant further saith that the said Jonathan said that the Indians at Sasquehannah were all of opinion that those Indians which they track'd were Enemies & that they would soon attack the English Settlements upon the Branches of Delaware River, and this Affirmant saith that last Wednesday two strange Indian Men were seen at the House of George Custar, by two Indian Women who Lived at Gnadenhutten (p.m.) & were then pulling Turnips for the said George Custar, which two strange Indian Men, when they Left the House of the said Custar came to the two Women & told them not to stay there, for that the French Indians were coming with intent to destroy the English, as the Women declared when they return'd home, whereupon many of the Indians at Gnadenhutten Lodged and hid themselves in the Bushes, and further this Deponent saith not.

David Heisberger (sic)

Affirmed the Day & Year
first above[s]d
before us

Wm Parsons

James Martin

[p.4] Endorsed Deposition of David Heisberger (sic) / Nov.r 22d. 1755. /

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REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA DIVISION

[7-77]

Berks County } ss.
Pennsylvania }

Jacob Morgan a Captain in Colonel Weiser's Regiment being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, doth depose and say.

That on Sunday the sixteenth Day of this Instant November about five o'Clock in the afternoon, He the Deponent, & Mr. Philip Weiser & Mr. Peter Weiser, two Sons of Col: Weiser, set out from Heidleberg towards Detrich Six's to get Intelligence, of the mischief done at Tolheo or thereabouts, and to get a number of Men to go and join them &; to go and seek for the Persons who were scalped by the Indians and to help in the best manner they could the poor distressed Inhabitants - That about Nine Miles from Mr. Weiser's they found a Girl about six years old scalped and yet alive and a vast number of People there; but he knows not at whose House it was, nor the name of the Child - That at the Request of the people there Mr. Weiser's Sons, & the Deponent went back to Mr. Weiser's for powder & Lead; that about two o'Clock yesterday morning they were alarm'd at Mr. Weiser's with an account, that the Indians had beset George Dollinger's House, & his Family were fled, whereupon

Philip Weiser & the Deponent, & a person whose Name the Deponent knows not set off immed-iately, & at Christopher Weisers overtook a large Company, consisting of about one hundred Men, & with them proceeded to George Dollinger's and surrounded his House, where they found a deal of damage done, & in the Garden a Child about Eight years old Daughter of one Cola lying [p 4] dead and scalped, which /they buried.- That the whole Company went on to the Plantation of Abraham Sneider, & found in a Cornfield the Wife of Cola & a Child about eight or nine years old both lying dead and scalped, and in the House they found another Child of the said Cola about Ten years old dead and scalped, but the Deponent knows not of what Sex either of these two Children was. That while they were preparing a Grave, they were alarmid by the firing of a Gun, & flying to their Arms they went (a few only staying to take care of the Dead) to the place from whence the sound came, and about half a Mile from the place they came from, they met with a Company (one of whom had indiscreetly discharged his Musket) and then went back to bury the Dead. In their return they found the Scalp of a white Person That having buried the Women and Children

they went to Thomas Bower's in whose House they found a dead Man scalped, whose Name the Deponent thinks was Philips, by trade a Shoe-maker, but he knows no more of him.. That the Company increased fast, & were now abave one hundred & fifty Men, who marched on the Shamokin Road to near Dietrich Sie's about half a Mile from whose House they found Casper Spring dead and scalped, and having buried him, they marched about an hundred Rods & found one Berlinger dead & scalped & buried him. That at a small distance from Berlingers they found an Indian man dead, which Indian it was gen-erally believed, was a Delaware. Mr. Frederick Weiser scalped him the Day before. That twenty of their Body, who had gone a Little out of the Road, and about two Miles from Dietrich Sie's found (as the Deponent and the rest of the Company were informed & as he believes without [p. 77] any doubt) /a Child of one Jacob Wolf, (he cannot say whether a Boy or a Girl,) which was scalp-ed, it's Age the Deponent does not know, but the Father carried it to the burial in his Arms, as they were informid. That the Deponent was in-formed by Mr. Frederick Weiser, that a Company with whom he had been the Day before had

buried John Leunberger and Rudolph Candel whom they found scalped - That the Deponent & Company finding no more scalped or wounded they returned, being then by the continual arrival of fresh Forces about three hundred Men., to George Dellinger's. That Casper Springs Brains were beat out, that he had two Cuts in his Breasts, was shot with a Bullet in his back, and his privities cut off, & put into his Mouth; that Beilingers Brains were out, his mouth much mangled, one of his Eyes cut out & one of his Ears gashd, & had two Knives lying on his breast. And that the whole Country thereabouts desert their Habitations and send away all their Household Goods, the Horses and Cattle are in the Corn Fields, & everything in the utmost disorder, and the People quite in despair, & further that he heard of much mischief done by burning Houses & Barns, but not having been where it was reported to have been done, he chooses not to have any particulars thereof inserted in this Deposition.

Jacob Morgan

Sworn at Reading in Berks County
the 18th. Day of November Anno Domini 1755.

Jonas Seely / Henry Harry / James Read.

(pro) Endorsed Copy / Deposition / Jacob Morgan taken at / Reading 18th. Novr. 1755.

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Patrick Burns of Marsh Creek in the County of York Labourer being examined on Oath before his Honour the Governor at Philadelphia on Monday the 17th of November 1755 saith that on Sunday the 19th Day of October Last about 8 o'Clock in the Evening this Examinant being on his Return home from the Falk Valley in the County of Cumberland in Company with George Mc.Swaine, they were met in that Valley by four Indians dressed in White Men's Cloaths, and armed with Tomhocks who immediately surrounded them seized their Bridles freed them off their Horses, made them Prisoners, and tying their Hands behind their backs, carried them away with them, travelling all Night towards Kays Town where they arrived about Day-break, and having just stopped to eat, went on and crossed the Allegany Hills about Twenty Miles over those Hills meeting with Ninety Indians more, they staid together for two Days and held Councils at Night. The four Indians who took the Examinant & said Mc. Swaine were Shawonese and the Ninety were chiefly Delawares with some Shawonese amongst them, They gave George Mc.Swaine to the Delaware King Shingas, all the Company came back to Kays Town except Capt. Jacobs a

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Delaware Indian who went off with a small party, (as he was told by a Mulatto who was among the Indians, & lived as an Indian) in search of Plantations for Plunder, & finding a Dutchman pulling Corn brought him along with them and Eight Horses. From Rays Town they travelled to Hett Jussey's Plantation. The Mulatto likewise told this Examinant that they had took away George Mc. Swaine and the Dutchman with Eight Horses to the Delaware Indian Town where they came from, they staid at Jusseys two Days, took four Horses.
[p.02] they held a Council the / second Night and next Morning, the Mulatto told this Examinant that Capt Jacobs with a Party of about 40 Indians was to go to Potowmec, and the rest about 60 in number towards the big Cove & Conegochege. They travelled near Thirty Miles that Night and in the way took two Familys consisting of two Men, one Woman and seven Children at a place called the Sugar Cabbins they tied the Man and Woman & Let the Children go loose, they shot a Cow and killed two Calves and eat them at Night being Fryday Night, Saturday morning they made ready to go to the Great Cove, Path Valley and Connegochege in pursuance of their determination in a Council which they held most of Fryday Night, as the Mulatto

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informd this Examinant it was resolved amongst them that one Party was to go into the Big bone another into the Path Valley, and another to Conegocheage, to kill and scalp all the Men they could and bring away the Women and Children Prisoners. they made this Examinant carry a load every Day, and at Night they Danced, boasting what they had done almost all Night, and said they would soon return from this Excursion and bring down a greater body of Indians and take all the Country if they could, that they were driven so far back already, that they would not be driven any more, whilst one of them was alive; the next Morning being Saturday Morning this Examinant made his Escape from thence, being suffer'd to go to a Spring at some distance to drink, & the next House he came to, being Victor's House, in the uppermost part of Conegocheage 4 Miles from John Mc Dowels, he alarmed them, & they immediately sent him away to alarm the People of the great bone.

his
Patrick ✠ Burns
Mark

Sworn before me
14th Novr 1755.
Robt H: Morris

[Endorsed]

[p. 62]

Endorsed Copy / Deposition / Patrick Burns /
taken before the Governor / 14th Novr. 1755.

[p.95]

The Examination of George Hutchinson of Peters Township in the County of Cumber-land Husbandman aged about Twenty eight Years, taken before the Honorable Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Governor of Pennsylvania in Coun-cil on the Fifteenth Day of November 1755.

This Examinant saith, that on the 1st Day of October last about 9 o'Clock in the Morn-ing, he was surprized and taken Prisoner by three Indians armed with Guns, Cuttasses and Tom-hocks who seized him as he was stooping down to drink in the River Potowmee on the Maryland side thereof, about two Miles and a half from Fort Cumberland where he had been for several Days collecting some Moneys due to him, from the Officers of the Garrison for Goods sold them. That they brought him to the other side of the River where were seven more Indians armed in the like manner, and an English Soldier belong-ing to the Fort, and an English Woman with Child, who told this Examinant that they were taken Prisoners that morning that this Examinant knew the Woman to be John Frazers Housekeeper and that she told him she was taken near Fort Cumberland carrying Peach Pyes to sell to

the Garrison. That the Indians soon after seiz-
-ing this Examinant as aforesaid took from him
his Silver Shoe Buckles and Silver Knee Buckles,
and all his Moneys being Fifty one pounds in
Money Gold and Silver out of his Pockets, then the
Indians marched taking him and the other two
Prisoners along with them and went Westward keep-
[p. 86] -ing near the River Potowmee, /that that same
Day the Indians took Prisoner a Sarjeant belong-
-ing to Capt Dobbs Company, one Mc Manas
and at Night came to their Camp where were
a great Company of Indians in number as this
Examinant computed one hundred & fifty with
about thirty Prisoners, Nine of which were Men
& the rest Women and Children mostly English
with a few Dutch, and this Examinant saith
that the said Indians soon after his being so
brought to their Camp stripped him stark naked,
taking from him a good Beaver hat, a Silk
Cap, Coat, Jacket and Breeches, & his Shirt off
his Back; and then tying him fast to a Sap-
-pling he remained in that Condition confin'd
to one posture all Night, that the next Day
they divided the Psisoners and gave this Exam-
-inant to an old Shawonese restoring to him only
his Coat Jacket and Breeches, then they held a

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REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, [illegible]

Council and immediately after killed Serjeant
Mc Manas in a most cruel manner by strik-
-ing a Tomhock into his Forehead and cut-
-ing him to pieces with their Cutlasses. That
the next Day they Travelled to the Little Mead-
-ows, and the Day after to the great Cross-
-ing at Ohiogany, when in the Night this
Examinant made his Escape from them, and
Lay hid all the next Day in a Swamp 'til
Night; & then set off and came about three
in the morning to Fort Cumberland. This Ex-
-aminant saith further, that he knew and well
remembers that one of the Indians who took
this Examinant, and also another of them
who he said in the main body of them at
their Camp were two of those Indians who
were maintained by this Province at Auc-
-quick, this Examinant having frequently seen
them there; and that he was inform'd by
the Indian called Capt Jacobs, who was among [p.97]
the said main Body and could speak good
English, that the said Party of Indians from
whom this Examinant made his Escape as
aforesaid were Delawares and Shawonese, but
chiefly Delawares, and that there was also
among them one Indian called King Shingas

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[p. 91]

Sir,

Capt Drury will deliver you Peter Spyker's and Jacob Morgan's Letters, and the Affidavit of the Latter. I am in good Spirits, but so very tired & weak that I cannot be supposed able to do every thing in that correct manner I wish to do, or would if I had time to get any good Sleep. You will see how miserable our condition is by the Papers, Mr. Drury will tell you more. We are without order, all the warm addresses, I can make to the people, who seem to regard me just when speaking, are of no Service. Every Man is a Captain, & the proper Officer has little notice paid his Orders, how prudently so-ever given, I doubt not, dear Sir, your Sympathy with us. I doubt not but you would do all in your power to help us, but we have a distracted People, who will not be persuaded of what is right.

I assure you, Sir, Jacob Morgan tells me that the People of Tulpyhockin swear they will go down to Philadelphia & shew the As-sembly &c, that they will not be ruined through their inhumanity. I pray God to prevent an Insurrection, had it not been for the great pains taken by Mr Seely & myself mischief would lately

have been done to a certain people whose Prin-
-ciples offend our Warlike Germans- I do not
know when our Troubles will end. The Indians
I suppose, have again retired behind Kittatinny
Hills, but by the time our people go to rest
[4p] again / they will return, and begin their Rav-
-aging & Cruelty again- We shall have no
rest & Winter is coming on.

I am

Sir

&c

James Read

Reading Novr. 18th. 1755.

P.S. Captn. Drury has got two Scalps mentioned
in Mr. Morgan's Affidavit- I recivd them just
as he was going off- We shall send some
more tomorrow.

[4p2]
Endorsed Copy / James Read's Letter to / Richard
Peters Esqr. / Datd 18th. Novr. 1755.

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Shippensburgh Novr 12th. 1755. [1-99]

Honoured Sir,

Permit me at this critical juncture to give you the following information of the designs of the Enemy it was my Duty to have wrote to the present Governor, but as he has not thought proper to desire to give him any accounts of Indian Affairs, since the defeat of General Braddock, I did not know how his Honour would take it from me, or what credit he would give to such an account, as I have not the least acquaintance of his Honour, but I flatter myself your honour will at least peruse the following accounts which I had from one of the Six Nations who I believe is yet a steady Friend if there be one of the Nation, & make such use of it as you shall think proper, tho' I must request the favour of your Honour not to make it publick from whom you had this Intelligence, so that neither of the Interpreters may have it in their power to tell the Indians from whence the account came. I am

Your Honrs &c

Geo. Croghan

1st. The Six Nations, Delawares, Shawonese, Wind-otts and Twightwees has had a grand Council

in which it was determin'd that the four Nat-
-ter Tribes shou'd engage the Frontiers of Virginia,
Maryland & Pennsylvania this Winter and drive
the Inhabitants over the South Mountain, the
Six Nations to stand Neuter 'til Spring; to this
Council the Mohocks and one other Tribe,
was no way privy nor knew anything about it.
2d. That the Six Nations while they stand
Neuter are to make all the Interest they can
with the Southward Indians to draw them to
their Interest and to settle them on the Ohio, as
they have already settled some of the upper Cher-
-kees on Kentuckey, a Creek near the lower
Shawanese Town, this you may depend upon for Truth.
3d. All the Indian Tribes over the Lakes
are to assist the French to the Northward against
General Shirley & General Johnson.
4th. The same Man informs me that there
has been but eight Indians come from Ohio
to Sasquehannah this Fall to Council, that those
Eight and the Wiondotts that was down at
Council this Fall assisted by the Sasque-
-hannah Indians done all the Murder that
was done on Sasquehannah which I am
really certain is the truth.

[P.S.]

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LI

P. S.

Sir -

From the misfortunes I have had in Trade which obliges me to keep at a great distance, I have it not in my power to forward Intelligence so soon as I could wish, however if it be worth notice I will acquaint the Government with anything I can find out that will tend to the hurt of my King and bountrey for certainly the Indians are only amusing the Government while they are priny, if not assisting to the Murders done.

I have but a Stuchado Fort at Aughwick and have about forty Men with me there, but how long I shall be able to keep it I really can't tell. I am your honour as before.

Lyle.

Endorsed Copy / Letter George Croghan to / Mr. Hamilton Shippensburg / Novr 12th 1755.

[p.46]

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

Sir -

I have now to inform you that David Treisburger is this Minute returnid from Lpaden-
-hutten who was sent yesterday with the Letter informing we would convoy the Indians that wanted to go to the Governor. He came to Lpaden-
-hutten about 5 or 6 a Clock last Night, when he came within sight of the Town, he heard the firing of several Guns, which he thought to be at the Mahony the place where our Brethren's Farm is and when he came to the first House he heard more firing, when some body hollow'd to be fetch'd over the Water, whom they fetched over, it was one of our Brethren that escap'd from the Mahony, who told David that the En-
-emy was at the Mahony and had killed the most of our poor white Brethren, he knew of only two that escap'd, upon hearing this David came immediately away to inform the People in Arms, whom he found encamped about six Miles this side Lpadenhutten, the first com-
-pany being some of the Irish Settlement people & some Dutch, when they heard of the mischief directly got to Arms & marched in good spirits two Mile further this way he came to Col. Anderson's Company who encamp'd at the Gap

without any Fire, so soon as he heard of it immediately called his Men to Arms, and sent one Man with David to the Settlement with or-ders for the Men then in the Settlement & some of Bucks County-men who lodged there Last Night to March directly to their assistance.

When David was got a few Miles from
[p.99] Gnadenhutten, he saw a very great Fire he supposed it to be the Buildings at the Mahony in Flames, the Brethen in Bethlehem intend as soon as possible to send a Waggon Load of Bread & such other provisions they can get ready to Gnadenhutten &c for the use of the Troops & I purpose to get some of the Saucon People to go as a Guard to the Waggon Least it fall in-to the Enemies hands; pray excuse these con-fused Lines being great hast. (bis) I am

Your very affectionate
humble Servant
Timothy Horsfield

Bethlehem past 5 o'Clock
Novr. 25th 1755.

Col. Anderson desires that word be sent to the Jersey to order more of his Men to come directly you will please to do it.

[p.100] Endorsed Timothy Horsfield to/Wm. Parsons Novr. 25th: 1755.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

[p.101]

Easton Novr. 25th. 1755.

Sir.

The enclosed Deposition was made by one of the Moravian Brethren sent here for that purpose by Mr. Horsfield, immediately upon this Information Mr. Martin and I sent over the River to Col. Anderson desiring him to order about 100 of his Regiment to our Assistance, and those are the Men referr'd to in Mr. Horsfield's Letter enclos'd. The very bad Weather we had on Sunday Morning, prevented their Marching 'til Noon that Day or else they would have been at Gnadenhutten Last Night. I have dispatched Persons everywhere amongst the Lower Inhabitants to alarm them and to hasten them to come to our assistance. In this poor Little Town we are without Men and without Arms to oppose the Enemy and if they should gain possession of this place, or of Bethlehem or Nazareth it will be impossible to remove them without a great and regular force. I thought it my Duty to give your Honour this Information by an Express the very Minute I received Mr. Horsfield's Letter and to entreat your Honour if it be possible

to order us a Supply of Arms and Ammu-
=nition immediately or I am afraid it will
be quite too late. I am

Sir / Your Honours most obedt.
humbl Servant
Wm Parsons

Govr Morris

[p. 102]
Endorsed Letter from Wm Parsons to / Govr Morris
Novr 25th 1755

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION, CL

[p. 103]

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

Your long Message of yesterday is now under my consideration, and I shall give you an answer to it as soon as I have fully weighed the several parts of it, but in the mean time think it my Duty to remind you that this Province is still without a Militia or the necessary means of defence, tho' the present situation of our affairs makes this more than ever necessary, as the Troops that his Majesty sent for the protection of these Provinces has been defeated, and the French have now in America a large Body of regular Forces, without doubt to carry into execution the plan they have long since formed of subjecting this Continent to their Dominion. And the Inhabitants from several Counties, having by Petition represented to me the Dangers to which they stand exposed, and declared themselves willing and desirous to defend themselves, I do therefore in his Majesty's Name call upon you, Gentlemen, to put this Province into a posture of defence, by establishing a Militia, (in doing which you will have a regard to scrupulous

Consciences) that this plentiful Country, situ-
-ate in the middle of the British Colonies, may
no longer remain open to the Enemy & thereby
put it in their power to make themselves Mas-
-ters of the whole Continent.

As I have frequently recommended this
Matter to you, and have no answer from you,
I must now desire you will give me an ex-
-plicit answer upon the Subject.

Robt. H: Morris

9th. Augst. 1755.

[Ff. 104]

Endorsed Pennsylvania / a Message from
the / Governor to the Assembly / Dat. 9th. Augst. 1755.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE

[p.105]

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

On the ninth Instant I recommended to you to establish a Militia for the safety and defence of the Province, and having frequently before recommended the same things, but received no answer, I then desired you would give me an explicit answer upon the Subject.

I do therefore now call upon you, and insist on a plain and categorical answer, whether you will or will not establish a Militia, that his Majesty and his Ministers may be informid, whether at this time of Danger the Province of Pennsylvania is to be put into a posture of defence or not.

Robt. H. Morris

21st August 1755.

[p.106]

Endorsed Pennsylvania /A Message from the Govr./ to the Assembly./ Dated 21st Augst 1755.

[4. 109]

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

May it please the Governor,

In our Message of the 31st of December last, we returned an answer to the request the Governor then made "that we would provide for the defence and safety of the Province, not only by affording such aids as his Majesty from time to time might require, but by establishing a regular Militia within this Province, and providing Arms and Stores of War, and building proper Magazines in the most convenient places." And we have now again reconsidered that Message, and his other Messages of the Ninth, Fifteenth, & Twenty first Instant, wherein we are told that we are still without a Militia, or the necessary means of defence. The Elections throughout the Province are near at hand, and our Assemblys may hereafter consider, whether it will be of any real advantage to establish a regular Militia by Law. - But as we find by the Governors result upon our Bill for Granting Fifty thousand Pounds for the King's use, he cannot think it consistent with the Trust reposed in him by the Proprietaries to pass that Bill, we find by experience that it can answer

no good purpose to waste our time in preparing Bills for his assent, in which for the common Security & Defence of the Province, we apprehend it would be a high breach of the Trust reposed in us to exclude the Proprietaries Estate from bear-
[p.100]
-ing any part of the / Burthen, and if not ex-
-cluded, as the Governor asserts, must at last be rejected by him for want of sufficient Powers in his Commission; and therefore (had we no other objections) we hope the Governor will judge it reasonable, after so many repeated refusals of the Bills we have offered to him for grant-
-ing large Sums of Money for the King's use, that we now wait the determination of our Superiors, what Powers he has or ought to have, as our Governor under the Royal and Pro-
-vincial Charters, and what exclusive Rights our Proprietors may be justly entitled to, in the laying and levying of Taxes, for the com-
-mon Security, and Defence of their Estates, with all the other Estates within this Province.

In the mean time we have taken care to answer the Petitions from the Inhabitants of the several parts of this Province, recommended to us in the Governor's Message of the Fifteenth Instant, in the best manner we are able, which

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we hope will be satisfactory to them, and a proof of the care we have for their ease and safety, as well as the just rights of those we represent.

Signed by order of the House
Isaac Norris
Speaker

the 22d. Day of the 8th. Month
called August 1755. P. M.

Endorsed Pennsylvania /A Message to the [4 no] Governor /from the Assembly. /Dat.d 22. Aug.st 1755.

[p.m]

Extract of a Letter from Governor Morris to the Gentlemen of the Council.

I am well assured if the Orders we have given are carried into Execution and the Men employed in that Quarter do their Duty, the Inhabitants will be for the future secured against any small scalping partys – The force on the West side Susquehannah consists of three hundred Men who are divided into four Companies and are to take Post in four Forts that are to form a Line from the Sugar Calbins to Matchi-=tongo within about twelve Miles of Susquehannah; three of these Forts are already in hand, and I hope will soon be finished, the fourth I have or-=dered to be laid out as soon as possible and expect it will be compleat in about ten Days- what makes me think the higher of the Western Force than I do of those employed to the Northward, is, that they are all regularly inlisted in the King's Service for a certain time, and the Of-=ficers were chosen by the Government and not by themselves.

Mr. Peters has been very much out of order ever since we got to Carlisle with a sore Throat but is very much recovered and now on

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his way hither; was he come up I would send you the Minutes of what passed with the In=dians, but as I have not the Papers I can on=ly say that the few that met me gave warm
[p.112] assurances / of their Affection, and offred to assist us against the French, but could not undertake to act against our Indian Enemys, 'til they knew what the Six Nations would do, who they ima=gin'd in consequence of the Messages sent them in behalf of this Province would chastize the Shawanese and Delawares for their behaviour.

. They strongly and repeatedly requested that we would build a Fort at Shamokin, which I have given them reasons to expect, and hope that measures will be resolved on and steps taken to carry it into execution before we return, but this Matter for reasons that I shall communicate when I have the pleasure to see you must be kept secret.

Lancaster

Jan^{y}. 21st 1756.

[Extract]

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

Extract of a Letter from Wm Hamilton to Governor Morris Datd Easton Decr 22d 1755.

We have now here upwards of 100 Men being the Companies of Captn Aston Captn Trump & Captn Mc Glaughlin, and are impatient-ly expecting more from below, for the People here are not very numerous and are besides very backward in entering into the Service, tho' the Encouragement is great, and one would [p.m] think they would gladly embrace the opportunity of re-venging themselves on the Authors of their Ruin, but the Terror that has seized them is so great or their Spirit so small that unless Men come from other parts of the Province I despair of get-ting such a number here as will be sufficient to Garrison the Block-houses we proposed to build over the Hill; whither we intended to have gone to morrow, but that our Provision Wagons are not come up:, and that we have not Men enough for the abovementioned purposes.

I heartily wish you were at Liberty to de-clare War against the Indians and offer large Rewards for Scalps, which appears the only way to clear our frontiers of these Savages, and will I am persuaded be infinitely cheapest in the

REPRODUCED FROM

end, for I clearly foresee the Expence of defending ourselves in the way we are in will ruin the Province and be far from effectual at Last, prin=-cipally for want of a good Militia Law, by which the Men might be subjected to Discipline, for at present they enter themselves and then Leave their Captains at their own humours without a power in the Officer to punish them for that or any other Misbehaviour.

[p. 112] [refers to p. 111]

Endorsed Extract of a Letter from /Governor Morris to the /Gentlemen of the Council/ Jan.y 21.st 1756.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

The Success of his Majesty's Arms em-
-ployed in driving the French from their En-
-croachments in Nova Scotia put it into the power of Governor Lawrence to reduce the French Inhabitants of that Colony to a proper obedience to his Majesty's Government, or of forcing them to quit the Country; but they refusing to swear Allegiance to his Majesty it was thought by him and his Majesty's Council for that Province, as well as by the Admirals Boscawen and Mostyn necessary for the Safety of that Province, that a considerable number of them should be removed and divided among the other Colonies; and a part of those destin'd for this Province are already arrived; but as I did not think it safe in our present Circumstances to permit them to land, I have ordered the Vessels that brought them to lye at a convenient distance below the Town, and have put Guards upon them, and ordered them Provisions

Imagining General Shirley to be at New York, I have acquainted him of their arrival, & the Danger that might accrue to us from such a number of People of their Principles coming amongst

us at this time & desired his particular In-
structions in what manner I might best dispose
of them, and I wait his answer, but as I hear
he is still at Albany, and the Doctors have
reported to me that it is dangerous to suffer
them to continue longer in such a crouded State,
[p. 116] Therefore I think it /neccessary to Land them at the
Province Island, & recommend it to you to make
Provision for them, & to enable me to place a
proper Guard over them.

Robt H: Morris

[p. 117] Endorsed Copy / Governor Morris's Message /
to the Assembly / Novr. 24th. 1755.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS

Gentlemen,

I have received Intelligence that the In-
-dians have fallen upon the Settlements at Tulpe-
-hocken, that they had Slaughter'd many of the
Inhabitants Laid waste the Country and were
moving towards the Town of Reading which is
within about Sixty Miles of this City; and
though I am in hopes their cruel progress will
be stopp'd long before they come further, yet as
I can get no certain Intelligence of their Strength,
or of the number of French Men that are among
them, I think it my Duty to take every caution-
-ary measure in my power for the preservation
& safety of the People and Province.

I must therefore recommend it to you
Gentlemen of the Corporation and through you
to the People of this City to be upon your-
Guard, and ready to take such measures for
the safety of the City & Province as the mo-
-tions of the Enemy may make necessary and
that you may be prepared not only to de-
-fend yourselves but to afford your assistance
to such parts of the Country as may stand
in need of it; I must desire that You the
Mayor Recorder and Aldermen will recommend
to me proper Persons to be appointed Officers

upon the present occasion, and to whom I will immediately issue Commissions – I am

Gentlemen &c.ª,

Robt. H: Morris

Philadelphia

Novr. 18th 1755.

[p.120]

Endorsed Govr. Morris to the Mayor / Recorder, & Aldermen of / Philada. Novr. 18th. 1755.

Mr. Peters and Mr. Lardner the Commit-
-tee appointed to enquire what Arms or Ammu-
-nition, had been distributed by any Members
of the Late or present Assembly, and to whom,
and by what Authority they have taken upon
them to do it. Do Report that in order to be
informed of this Matter they enquired of Mr. Trotter
if he distributed Arms or knew who did, and
he told them that the Late Assembly, had appoint-
-ed a Committee for that purpose, but of whom
it consisted he could not tell, other than that
Evan Morgan & Benjamin Franklin were of it;
& he believed the only acting Persons under that
appointment, whereupon they went to Mr. Morgan
& he told them that he was one of such a Com-
-mittee appointed by the Late Assembly, in virtue
thereof he had purchased and sent up several
Quantities of Arms at different times to such of
the back Inhabitants, as had petitioned for them
and were known to be most exposed to Danger,
and being asked for the particulars he delivered
to them the List hereto annexed and said it
contained a full and true account of the num-
-ber of Arms and Quantities of Ammunition dis-
-tributed by him in virtue of the order of the

Late Assembly, & being asked whether any Order had been given by the present Assembly for the purchase and distribution of Arms, he said not that he knew of, they then went to Mr Franklin, who being ask'd the same questions as Mr Morgan, said that he was one of the Committee ap-pointed by the Late Assembly and that now had been appointed by the present Assembly for the purchase of Arms, and that in virtue thereof he had distributed sundrys, the particulars where-of he had put down in Writing and delivered to them the Paper annexed telling them at the same time, that all the Arms and Ammunition therein mentioned had been delivered while the Governor was at Newcastle & since his Return

Richard Peters

Lynford Lardner

5th. November 1755.

[Time]

Time when sent		
	Guns	
July 25 . .	50	to Carlisle 2½ hund. wt. Lead & 1 hund. ¼ Powder - Jnº. Armstrong
25 . . .	50	to Peters Township & 2 hund. & ½ Lead & 1 hund. & ½ powder - Mr. Maxwell
Augst. . . .	50	to Paxton & 2 Quartr. Casks powder & 2 hund. Lead. Justice Read & Galbraith
Septr. 1. . . .	25	to Paxton & 1 2r. Cask powder & 1 hund: Lead - to John Carson
Octr. 15	75	to Huntington, Straban, Cumberland, & Mountallen Townships delivered John Wright with 3 2r. Casks powder & 3 hund. Lead
Octr. 4. . . .	25	to Lourgan 12r. Cask Powder & 1 hund. Lead - Jos. Armstrong
Octr. 4. . . .	25	to Hamilton 12r. Cask Powder & 1 hund. Lead Jos. Armstrong
Octr. 20. . . .	25	to York Town 12r. Cask Powder & 1 hund. Lead - John Wright
Octr. 24	125	to Carlisle & 5 2r. Cask Powder & 5 hund. Lead - to Messrs. John Smith John Armstrong & Wm. Buchanan, to be distributed at their discretion
Octr. 28. . . .	50.	to Mohonoy & 2 2r. Casks & ½ barl. Powder & 2 hund. Lead and 2 Swivel Guns, and 2 pieces Cannon given by Mr. Allen intended for an Island in Susquehanna and directed to John Harris to be forwarded.

[p.121]

93 Muskets 125 lb. Powder 450 lb. Lead	Sent to Reading to the Care of Conrad Weiser & James Read Esqrs.
75 lb Powder 345. Lead 50. Powder more 25. Arms 1000. Gunflints	to Carlisle to the care of John Armstrong & William Buchanan Esqrs.
50 Arms 100 lb. Gunpowder 200. Lead	to Reading to the care of Conrad Weiser & James Read Esqrs.

The above were delivered p Mr. Franklin within these few Days since and while the Governor was at Newcastle by virtue of an Order of the late Assembly appointing him and others to purchase and distribute Arms &c. with the approbation of the Governor.

Novr. 4th. 1755.

[p.122]

Endorsed The Report of Lynford Lardner & Richd. Peters Esqrs /a Committee to enquire into the numbers of Arms &c. /Datd. 5th. Novr. 1755.

[p. 126]

Instructions of the honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania & Counties of Newcastle, Kent & Sussex on Delaware.

To Scarrooyady one of the Chiefs of the Oneido Nation and Mr. Andrew Montour of the County of Cumberland.

Our former Friends the Delawares residing at Ohio having fallen upon our Each Inhabitants in a most cruel manner without giving us the least notice of it, I have thought it necessary to send an account thereof with all possible dispatch to the Six Nations, and as you have kindly offered to undertake this Journey by the way of Sasquehanna, I instruct you to make all the haste possible and as you travel along apprize all our Friendly Indians of this unexpected Treatment of the Ohio Delawares, & where you think it right apply on the part of this Government for assistance; and that you may observe the Indian Ceremonies necessary on these occasions, I have entrusted to your Care a Quantity of Belts and Strings of Wampum confiding in your prudence & Judgement in the distribution of them.

When you arrive among the Six Nations you are first to present to them the condolances of this Government for the Deaths of the several Warriors who fell General Shirley & General Johnson & fell in Battle; remove Sorrow and Grief from their Hearts & wipe away Tears from their Eyes.

When this is done & they can see you & hear what you have to say, Let them know that you are Messengers sent by the Government of Pennsylvania to the Six United Nations on a
[p. 126]
very extraordinary matter that / has happend there, & pray them to hearken to what you say, & give it the strictest attention; and then make the following Speech in my name.

Brethren,

Your Cousins the Delawares who Live at Ohio whom we have hitherto Looked upon as our Children, whom we Nursed and Cherished in our Bosoms, whom we have supported and with whom we have Lived from our Infancy in perfect Love and Tenderness, have in a most cruel manner fallen upon & murdered our Inhabitants People whose Houses were always open to them, & who had given them every kind of thing they asked.

Brethren,

It was but the very last year they gave

us a kind and friendly Meeting & at their own Instance the Treaties subsisting between us were mutually renewed and when they parted with us they gave us assurance of their continuing our Friends whilst the Waters should run down the Rivers. And on our part in token of the sincere love we bore them, we then told them that the times were stormy, that they were much exposed, where they Lived, to danger, & were but few in number, and consequently a very unequal match for Onontios people, and therefore in tenderness to their Lives & to prevent evil befalling them we desird them not to engage but to continue quiet 'til they should hear further from us. They acknowledged this as kind advice & thanked us & promised to do so, and confirmed all by Belts of Wampum.

Brethren,

All this pass'd between us but the very last year & we never dreamed that their Hearts could be poisoned by the Enemy, or the Flame [p. 157] of Love so soon extinguished in their Breasts; but the truth is that without giving us any notice, these Indians have enter'd our Province in Arms and killed the Poor People that were settled on our Borders; Innocent Persons, who were resting

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peaceably in their beds and expecting no harm- They struck the Tomhock in their Brains - Their Houses & Stacks of Corn and Hay they set on Fire their Cattle stabb'd, & their Carcases they left welt-ring in their Blood expos'd to the Wild Beasts, no friendly hand daring to put them under the Earth.

Our People lived without Arms; they thought there was no need of Arms, being secure of the Friendship of the Indians - The Warriors of all Nations passed and repassed & never hurt them, but partook of what they had. Your Cousins knew this, and yet they have not only fallen upon our Inhabitants and killed them, but have exercised greater Cruelties than the French Indians ever did in all the last War.

Brethren of the Six united Nations.

These Delawares are your Cousins & under your direction. We therefore acquaint you that they have treated us as Enemies & broken thro' the Chain of friendship. Let us know whether this was done with your knowledge & consent, or by your or-der & whether you will correct your Cousins & stop their proceedings.

We expect something will be done by you immediately in virtue of the Treaties sub-sisting between us. what you do must be

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done quickly, for they are even now destroy-
-ing all before them.

Here give a Black Belt

Endorsed Copy. / Governor Morris's Instructions / to Scarooyady & Andrew / Montour. [p. 128]

At a Council held at the State House Sat-
-urday 8th of November 1755. P.M.

Present

The Honble Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell Thomas Cadwalader
Lynford Lardner Richard Peters } Esqrs

Indians

Scarooyady . . . . . an Oneido
Jagrea . . . . . a Mohock

Andrew Montour
Conrad Weiser Interpreter

The Speaker and Members of Assembly, several Magistrates, Officers and Citizens.

The Governor ordered the Interpreter to tell the Indians, that he, his Council, the Assembly & the good People of the City were met, at their Instance, & ready to hear them.

Scarooyady, addressing himself to the Governor and all present, made the following Speech.

Brethren,

I let you know that I am returned from my Journey which when I was last here I told you I intended to take. I went as far up the River Susquehannah as where the Nanticokes live I told them that I had undertaken that Journey

purposely to alarm them, to apprize them of the approach of very heavy Storms and to warn them of imminent Danger. I bid them rouse and awake, & hearken to the Noise that was all about them, and that if they did not now awake, [p.130] the first Noise they would hear would /be the Noise of the Tomhock upon their heads. I went in this manner to all the Indians; and I know their Sentiments.— I want to know Yours— I want you to open your Hearts; I want to look into their insides.— I must now know if you will stand by Us, to be plain, if You will fight or not. You must be as sensible of Danger as the Indians, and therefore speak plain to Us. We shall then know what to do. Be persuaded that we are determined to know the Certainty of your Measures, before we take any of Ourselves.

Then taking a double Belt of Wampum, one Black, the other White, with a string tied to the End of the Black Belt,

He proceeded to relate the particulars of what passed between him and the Nanticokes and other Indians on Sasquehannah, saying, I told them that the defeat of General Braddock had brought about a great turn of Affairs— It was a great Blow— but what then, though we were struck

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half way to the Ground, I told them we had Strength enough Left to recover, and that though Onontio, since that time, was grown proud, ex-ceeding proud, yet if they would exert them-selves with Us, we might yet subdue the pride of Onontio. And then I gave them the Belt with the Hatchet in it, which they took readily, and gave another Belt and tied it to mine, in order to make the Hatchet the sharper and give it the greater weight.

At the same time they told me that they had heard a noise of Guns, but did not know where it came from and they thanked me for coming to Let them know their Danger, and from what Quarter the noise came; that they hated Onontio and would chearfully assist against him; whoever sent to them first they would go to first, whether it should be their Brethren the English or the Six Nations, whoever sent first should be first assisted, and that it was further agreed by all the Nations of In-dians [on Sasquehannah that I should go to [p. 13] Philadelphia * apply immediately to the Government and obtain an explicit answer from them whether they would fight or not.

[Scaroyady.]

Scarooyady then threw the Belts upon the Table and proceeded.

Brethren.

I must deal plainly with you, and tell you if you will not fight with us, we will go somewhere else. We never can, nor ever will put up the Affront. If we cannot be safe where we are, we will go somewhere else for protection and take care of Ourselves.

We have more to say, but will first receive your answer to this; and as the times are too dangerous to admit of our staying long here, we therefore entreat you will use all the Dispatch possible, that we may not be detained.

Brethren.

We are charged with having been concerned in a late Engagement that the Enemy had with your people. We absolutely deny it; We hate Onontio as much as Yndo, and cannot help taking it very much amiss to be thus charged by your people.

For a proof of our Innocence, we Let you know, that as soon as we had the News of your people being attack'd we went immediately, We did not stay two Minutes, to the place of Attack. We found no Enemy there, but we

found an Indian that was killed by your People, a french Indian; We did not kill him, but we scalped him, & have brought you the Scalp, which we would not have done if he had been of the number of our Friends.

Brethren,

I have done for the present.

The Governor after conferring with his Coun=cil [gave this answer. [p. 192]

Brethren,

In behalf of the Government and People of Pensylvania I give you thanks for this friendly visit.

We are obliged to you for the journey you took to the Nanticokes, and for waking and warning them of their Danger, they are our Friends, and in doing a good office to them, you do a kindness to Us.

We also thank you for coming down, and giving us warning of our Danger at this time of Trouble..

From the Nature of our Government it is not in my power, nor in the power of any one Man to say what the whole People shall do: I therefore cannot give you a positive answer to that part of your Speech wherein you desire to know whether we will fight or not; but as

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE

the several Men who have a Right to determine that point are now met, they are considering the present state of the Country, and will consider what you have now said, and when we have agreed what shall be done, you may depend on knowing it.

The Government and governing part of the People of this Province have never accused the Six Nations of any breach of faith; they ever did and still do esteem them their fast friends and Allies; but as our People are numerous and scattered all over the Country and not under the immediate Eye of the Government, it is impossible to keep every Mouth in order; We therefore hope that you will not take amiss any idle Tales that foolish chattering People may utter; or attribute anything to the Government, that they may say to your prejudice, but regard only what you hear from the Government, as that alone is to be depended upon as the true Sense of the People of this Province.

Then

[this paper is continued on p 219 owing to an error in binding]

[p.103]

Jan:y 24 12th: 1756.

Sir

In compliance with your request I will herein give you the Indian Intelligence I had from Mr. George Croghan, he told me that when a Party of the Delawares and Shawonese from Ohio had scalped and taken prisoners several of the Inhabitants of Patterson's Creek, and afterwards some of that Party having destroyed the great Cove; he concluded that the French had stirred them up against us, in order to drive off the back Settlers, so as to make it the more difficult for us to supply an Army in a future Expedition against Fort Du Quesne.

But having certain Intelligence that these Parties did not deliver up their Prisoners to the French, but on the contrary dispersed them amongst themselves, & treated them very kindly, he concluded there must be some grand Scheme of the Indians, independant of the French Schemes, and by some Presents he prevailed upon one of his old friends, one of the Six Nations to Let him into the Secret.

This Indian told him that the Onondago Council was not pleased with the English set-ting the Lands so far back, for they apprehended

the English extending their Settlements on the one side, and the French securing the other side by Forts, must sometime hence end in a total extirpation of them, unless timely prevented; that altho' the English always purchased the Lands they settled, yet it was of Little import-anee to them whether it was taken by force, or settled by virtue of purchasing it, since in either base they would lose their Lands, and the con-sideration they got was soon spent, altho' the
[p 134] Lands / remained; and as they judged it absolute-ly necessary to assert their own independancy, they communicated a Scheme to the Delawares, Shaw-onese, Munsies and Nanticokes for that purpose, and promised on their good behaviour to incor-porate them with the Six Nations. The part they were to act was to fall on the back Inhabitants of this Province, and drive them off as far as the South Mountain, which by the assistance of the French they expected they would be able to effect. That by the time they had accomplish'd this, they made no doubt but the English would be glad to make peace, which they intended to comply with, provided that Mountain was agreed upon as a Boundary to their Settlements: upon concluding a peace with the English they were determined to ask

their assistance to drive off the French from Ohio, which they expected would be easily done by cut-ting off the communication between their Forts, and starving them out, and as they imagin'd their own Strength insufficient to carry this plan in-to execution, they have been treating with the Cherokee, and Creek Indians, to come into al-liance with them, and settle on the Ohio, in which they are in great hopes of succeeding. and the more so as South Carolina Government have Lately purchased all their Lands.

Croghan asked him if all the Six Na-tions agreed to this plan, to which he answered that he believed neither the Mohawks nor Oneidoes had come into it.

I wrote to a Gentleman at New York to lay this Scheme before General Johnson for his opinion, and he writes me that Mr. Johnson says it is the actual Scheme, for that it agrees and coincides with all the Conferences / he has had [p. 136] with the Indians lately. I am

Sir / Your humble Servant

Wm West

[p. 136]

Endorsed Mr Penn / Jan.y 24th 12th 1756

To Lord Halifax if / He has not seen it; & / to Lord Loudon. [This is a clean copy in much in another hand]

Ry from Mr. Penn. March 12: 1756

[This is the Letter mentioned first in the following List]

[p.134]

List of Papers

Extract of a Letter from the Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania to Mr. Penn.

Governor Morris's Instructions to Scarrooyady and Andrew Montour.

Report of Lynford Lardner & Richard Peters of the Arms and Ammunition distributed by the Assembly.

Governor Morris's Message to the Mayor and Magistrates of Philadelphia.

Governor Morris's Message to the Assembly.

Letter from Conrad Weiser to the Governor of Pennsylvania
from William Parsons to the same.
from Timothy Horsfield to William Parsons.
from George Croghan to Mr. Hamilton.
from James Read to Richard Peters.

Deposition of George Hutchinson.
Patrick Burns.
Jacob Morgan.
David Heisberger.

Secret Intelligence receiv'd from Shippensburgh.

Remonstrance of the Mayor & Commonalty of Philad.a—

Endorsed List of Papers

[p.140]

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

[p. 141]

Papers from Mr. Penn

Minutes of three Councils held at Philadelphia, on the 8th Novr, for a Conference with some Indians from the Sosqueh(a)annah.

In the first, the Indians give an Account of an Invitation made to them by the French Indians to, x join them, or else to leave their Country - that 1000 French Indians were marching against the English from the Ohio, among which were the Delawarrs, who proclaimed War against the English. The Indians represent they have a Message which they desire to deliver, in the Presence of the Assembly.

x from the Govr of Canada

In the second Conference, the Assembly being present, these Indians give Assurances of their Attachment [p. 142] to the English, & Hatred to the French; that they had lately been among the Nanticokes, who were in the same good Disposition; - They demand Assistance & declare, that, without it they must go Elsewhere; & desire a speedy Answer -

They justify themselves from the Charge of having assisted the French.— The Governor thanks them for their speech, But says, from the Nature of the Government, it is not in his power to say what the People will do;- That as those who have a Right to determine are present, they will consider it; & they shall immediately know what is agreed on.— the Governor then recommends the Affair to the Assembly

In the third, the Govr. ~~tells~~ informs the Council of his Intentions of going to the back Settlements, of which they advise him to acquaint the Indians, which he accordingly did, ~~to~~ And the Indians press him strongly to defer the Journey, as their Affairs may be neglected in his Absence, & declare, if they fail in this Application, they will trouble themselves no more with the Province, but leave it to It's own Destruction, & ~~shift~~ provide for their own Safety in some other Place;- the Govr. on this consulted the Council, who advised him to stay, at which the Indians expressed great Satisfaction; and said they only desired Necessaries for their Wives & Children; arms & ammunition for

(p. 143)

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

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themselves, & some English to be with them, to be witnesses [plural] of their Conduct & learn their Manner of Fighting - & that much Mischief might have been prevented if their former Request for Assistance had been complied with.

A Representation to the Assembly, signed by the Mayor, Corporation & 150 of the Inhabitants of Philadelphia, In which, in the strongest Terms, they make a positive & immediate Demand of a Militia Law, & that no Sum of Money can answer the purposes of Defence without such a Law; especially when It is proposed to raise the Money by Means that must occasion Disputes & Delays when many unexceptionable ones are ready.

[A Representation to the Assembly from [plural] the Quakers [sic], signed by 20. Persons - In which they declare their Readiness to contribute to any Taxes, for Cultivating the Friendship of the Indians, & relieving the Distressed, & such benevolent Purposes - yet the Raising Money to be put in the hands of Committees, who may apply it inconsistently with the Peace they profess to all the World, appears destructive

Sir

Since I wrote You on the 28th. October the French Indians have made several Incursions into the settled parts of this Province, have destroyed Numbers of the Inhabitants, and laid waste a considerable Extent of Country; This might in great measure have been prevented if I could have prevailed on my Assembly to have granted supplies and enabled me to put the Province into a posture of defence; But there is so great a majority of Quakers in the House that no Warlike preparations are to be expected from them being as they pretend contrary to their Principles. – However they have at last granted a supply of Fifty five thousand pounds and the Proprietors have given five thousand pounds more, and I have passd a Law for emitting the Fifty five thousand pounds in Bills of Credit which are to be sunk in four yearly paym^ts. The disposition of this Money is more clogg'd than I coud wish, and may therefore not be applied in the best manner but I am in hopes it will so far answer the ends proposed as to put the Province into a tolerable posture of defence and prevent in great measure the future Inroads of the Indians; But

for want of a well establish'd regular Militia
It will be very difficult and expensive to de-
=fend so extended a Frontier as this Province has

I am Sr.

Your most obedt
Humble Servt
Robt H: Morris [autograph]

Sr Thomas Robinson secretary of state

[p. 130]
Endorsed Lieut. Govr. Morris /no date/ Ry
11th: Janry 1756.

Govr Morris's Letter to
Mr Penn Novr 28.

Has received his Letter, with the Order for 5000 £, which came in a critical time, as the Assembly would do nothing, & the People grew uneasy, & resolved, in a Body, to force the Legislature to provide for their Defence - 700 came to Town, & sent Six of their Leaders to the Govr to tell him they were only Supplicants to the Legislature to be put in a Condition to defend themselves, & desired to wait on the Govr next Day, when only Two came, who desired him to do what was in his Power, - that they depended on him, & hoped no unreasonable Dispute with the Assembly would hinder the providing for the Safety of the People - Mr Morris assured them of his Concern for them, & that, when the Assembly would enable him, he would do anything for their Preservation, but that his repeated Calls only drew Reflections on himself, & the Proprietors; - that he was ready to pass any Law consistent with his Duty &, the Trust reposed in him, which he would not betray, or exceed his Powers - that the Proprietors were too nearly

[p. 152]

interested not to do all in their Power;- As a Proof of their Affection, he informed them of the Order for 5000 £ as a free Gift to the Publick; &. as great Pains had been taken to persuade the People, the Money was raised by Subscription, he had the Order read - They were all satisfyed, & desired they might go to the Assembly; the Govr. desired them to behave peaceably, which They promised - their Reception by the Assembly not so satisfactory; they sent for only a few, & told them they would con-sider their Petition. - Franklyn haranqued, that the Assembly were contending for the Liberties & Privileges of the People - they said, they did not know their Liberties were in-vaded, but their Lives & Estates were; & they hoped they would not dispute, but send the Govr. a Bill he could pass - Great Pains taken to sow Sedition among these [p. 158] People; to no Purpose; - they returned quite satisfied with the Government, but not with the Assembly

the Militia Bill, sent to Mr. Penn, is impossible to be executed; the Assembly did not intend it should pass, but only

raise a Clamour, which is turned on them-
-selves by the Govr. passing it.

The Govr. proposed a Subscription for
Arms & Ammunition for the back Inhabitants,
& to begin with 1000£ for the Proprietors, but
no one would subscribe; so was drove to the
Necessity of buying a large Quantity of Pow-
-der & Lead, at his own risque, which is
sent where it was most wanted; this would
have avail'd little without the order for 5000£,
& the passing the Militia Bill.

Was resolved to make the best Terms,
& pass any Tax, if the Proprietor's Estate was
exempt:- They sent a Bill for 55,000£ which,
with the Proprietor's Gift / of 5000. makes 60,000;- [p. 152]
for which they exempt their Estate- would
have had That left out; but did not think
right to split on that, or some other parts
of the Bill- the 55,000£ to be struck in
paper Money, to be sunk by Tax in four
years, the first payment to be next May,
the surplus subject to Act of General As-
-sembly.- the Money to be disposed of by
5. or 6. Persons, with Consent of the Govr., or
Commander in Chief.- the Govr. has as-
-sented to this Bill.- the Points gained

by it are, the Appropriation of the Surplus by Act. Raising Money for military Purposes; & taxing Quakers to that Use;- but the principal is a Provision for the Defence of the Province.

[p.155]

Gov.r Morris's Instructions to Scarrooyady, a Chief of the Oneidas, & Mr. Andrew Montour (sic)

/Directs them to go with all Dispatch to the Six Nations, to acquaint Them, & all other Friendly Indians, in the Way, with the Behavior of the Delawarres, & to apply for Assistance, where They think right; for which purpose they are provided with a quantity of Wampum.

With regard to the Six Nations, They are to make Speeches to Them, & to demand to know, whether the Delawarrs have acted by their Knowledge, & Consent, or Order, & whether they will correct & stop their Proceedings;- that something is expected immediately from them, in Virtue of the Treaties subsisting.

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Report of Mr. Lardner & Mr. Peters. Novr 5.

These Gentlemen, being [Ep. 156] appointed to enquire what Arms had been distributed by Au-thority of the late or present Assembly, report, that They Mr. Evan Morgan, & Benjn. Franklland, who ~~heard~~ (Saw) were of the Committee for that Pur-pose, had delivered them Lists of Arms, they had distributed, by which It appears, that they had sent, at different Times, to different Places, be-tween 6. & 700. Arms, with large Quantities of Powder & Lead, & a few Cannon.

Govr. Morris's Letter to the Corporation of Philadelphia Novr. 18.

Acquaintg them, he has Intelligence, that the Indians have fallen on Settlements at Tulpehocken, & were moving to-wards Reading, within 60. Miles of Philadelphia, but has no certain Account of their Strength, or of the French among them.

Recommends to them to be on their Guard, & to

[p.154]

take the necessary Measures for the Safety of the City & Province, to defend themselves, & assist the Country; — desires them to re-commend proper Persons for Officers, to whom He will issue Commissions.

Gov.r Morris's Message to the Assembly

Acquaints them with the Arrival of the Neutrals from Nova Scotia; that not thinking it safe for them to land, in the present Circumstances, He had ordered the Vessels to lye below the Town, & placed a Guard over them — Had wrote to Gen.l Shirley for Instructions but the Doctors re-porting It would be dangerous for them to continue crowded on board, He had ordered them to be landed in the Province Is-land, & desires the Assembly to make Provision for them, & enable him to place a proper Guard.

[p.159] Nine Letters & Depositions — These Papers contain sev-eral particular Accounts of the great Ravages & Cruelties commit-ed by the Indians — the Letters

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from Wm. Parsons & Timothy Horsfield mention their sending to Colo. Anderson for Assist-ance from his Regiment, but they do not say who Colo. Anderson is, only the Post--cript to Horsfield's Letter says, the Colo. de-sires Word may be sent to Jersey to order more of his Men.— Some of these Letters com-plain for want of Arms & Ammunition— Mr. Read's Letter from Reading mentions great Confusion, for want of due Subordination among the Officers. — the most remark-able is a Letter of Nov.r 12. from Mr. Crogan of Shippensburg to Mr. Hamilton:— After some Hint of being neglected by the pres-ent Gov.r, He gives an Account he has received from One of the Six Nations, who he believes a steady Friend, if there [4.159] is one, & desires great Care may be taken, that It be not known from whence the Account came — this Indian says

1.st there had been a grand Council between the Six Nations, Delawarrs, Shawonese, Windotts, & Twightwees, — It was determin-ed the 4 Latter should engage the Frontiers of Virginia, Maryland, & Pensylvania, this Winter, & drive the Inhabitants over the

South Mountain; - the Six Nations to stand Neuter till Spring - Mohocks & one other Tribe not privy to the Council

2d - the Six Nations, while Neuter, to do all they can to draw the Southern Indians to their Interest, & settle them on the Ohio, as they have already done some of the Upper Cherokees on a Creek near the Lower Shawanese - this may be depended on.

3d the Indian Tribes over the Lakes to assist the French to the Northward against Shirley & Johnson.

4th only 8 Indians come from the Ohio to Susquehannah to Council, those 8, with the Windotto & Susquehannah Indians have done all the Murder &c? this is certain

[Ep. 160]

Secret Intelligence from Shippensburg.

the five Nations determined to harrass us - they are getting Shawonese, Delawarrs, Cherokees, & every other Nation they can, in a Scheme of giving ~~such a~~ such Diversion to adjacent Colonies, in Conjunction

with the French on Ohio, as will oblige Us to come to Terms with them (the Indians); for they find, if they are Neuter, the Lands on the Ohio, will be in the hands of France or England, & now is the Time to put in for a Share - the Shawonese & the Delawarrs have accepted the Proposals, & committed the late Rav-ages - If they are permitted to dis-tress Us, they intend to stribe Lines with Us, & then drive the French from that Country; - the five Na-tions intend to be [p. 160] Neuter, till they see the Success of their Allies.

Remonstrance from the Mayor &c. of Philadelphia

Demanding of the Assembly, in the strongest Terms, a Militia Bill, & other proper Measures for their De-fence & Security

Endorsed Abstract of Papers, sent [p. 160a] by Mr. Penn.
Janry 14th. 1756.

[p.67]

Duplicate

Sir

I had the Honour to inform You by my last that the Assembly of Pennsylvania had given Fifty Five Thousand Pounds to the Kings Use, besides Five Thousand Pounds which the Proprietors contributed as a Free Gift to the Province, and I have great hopes that the money will be employed in the best manner possible for the Security of the Inhabitants; but as we have a very extensive Frontier it will be necessary to employ as great Number of Men and to build many small Forts to protect the Back Settlers who have been continually harassed with Scalping Parties of Indians, that have set fire to their Houses after putting all to death they could surprize and obliged them for want of some Places of Security and a sufficient Number of Arms to desert their Habitations & throw themselves on the internal Inhabitants for a charitable Subsistence which has proved an exceeding heavy Burthen. This will take up the greatest Part if not the whole of the Sum granted and yet leave us without Arms and Artillery, unless [p.68] we raise a further Sum which under our present distresses will be very difficult to do. I am therefore desired humbly to pray that his Majesty out

of his wonted Bounty and Regard for the Safety of his People would be graciously pleased to be-stow upon the Province a Number of small Arms, a Train of Artillery and some heavy Cannon to be mounted upon the River Delaware. Of these I have taken the Liberty to inclose a List, and en-treat you will be pleased to lay it before his Majesty and do us the Honour to accompany it with a Representation in our favour. I can only assure you I will use them in the best manner I can for the Security and Defence of the Govern-ments committed to my Care and upon every Occasion instil into the Minds of the People a proper Sense of Duty and Affection to His Majesty & a grateful Return for His Paternal Care & Affection

I am Sir

Your Most Obed.t and
Most Humble Serv.t
Robt. H: Morris

New Yorke
22d Dec.r 1755.

[p.146]
Endorsed New York Decem.r 22.d 1755/Lieut Gov.r Morris./Ry 23 Janry 1756./Dup.

C.O.5: 17

[p. 67]

A List of Arms and Cannon requested for the Province of Pennsylvania and the Three Lower Counties on Delaware.

Two Thousand Stand of Arms
Two Twelve Pounders } Brass Cannon
Two Six Pounders }
Two Eight Inch Brass Holits
One Eleven Inch Brass Mortar
Twenty Iron Cannon 18 and 24 Pounders

22 Decr 1755

[p. 68]

Endorsed in Lt Govr Morris's / Decr: 22. 1755.

C.O.5 /

Duplicate Fort George New York Decem.r 18.th 1755 [9-169]

Sir.

I had the honour to acquaint you by my Letter of the 29 Novem.r that the Baron Dies-hau and his Aid de Camp were removed from Albany to this City, his Wounds are not healed, nor by the report of the Surgeons like to be so.

As we can have no communication with Canada, he cannot possibly draw any Subsistance from that Country, I have therefore advanced him Money for his Support to the amount of 6194 Livres for which he has given me Bills of Ex-change on Monsieur de Machault garde Des Sceaux de france, Minister Secretarie de Etat de la Marine, which Bills with his Letters of advice I have transmitted to my Brother Hardy, and have desired him to wait on you to receive your di-rections if he shall negotiate them for my being reimbursed, not knowing whether his Majesty may not please to support this Officer.

I have the honour to be

Sir.

Your most Obedient

and humble Servant

Cha.s Hardy [Copy]

The Right Hon.ble Sir Thomas Robinson.

[p. 178]

Portsmouth December 22d 1755

Sir

The early Notice you were pleased to give me in your letter of 26th July, of the Ap-prehensions you were under, that the Crown Of France might proceed to an open rupture with England, by the French Ambassadors leav-ing the Kingdom in the manner he did, is Esteemed as a Mark of your great Care for His Majestys Colonys, I lost no time in make--ing the danger public to His Majestys trade-ing Subjects, that they might be duly prepared for the Event.

The French have had but a Slender Na-val Force in these Seas, the Summer past, ow-ing wholly to His Majestys great Care, in or-dering a Strong Squadron under the Command of Admiral Roseawen; on this Coast.

Since the defeat of the French Army at Lake George, by General Johnsons Army, who were intended by the Colonys that raised the men, to attempt the reduction of Crown Point Fort, very little has been done by the Provincial Troops, they are now dismissed, Except a Sufficient [p. 179] Num-ber to Garrison the Forts that have been erect-ed at Lake George & the Carrying place into that

Lake & wood Creek.

The last Summers Campaign, being so unsuccessfull to His Majestys regular Troops, & to the Provincials, I am apprehensive it will be a great discouragement to future Attempts, Neither am I able to form any Judgment in what manner the Expence of this Government will be defrayed, should the like martial Spirit appear in the people, in the Approaching Summer as in the Summer past.

The Armament made by this Government against the French, has principly been Carried on with paper mony Issued for that Service, & to be brought into the Treasury again to be burnt in five Annual payments, which with the taxes on the Same years, Already laid, I fear will prove a burthen too heavy for the people to bear without relief; and as Major General Shirley is cloathed with power in these Matters, I have made Application to him on this point, to know what provision he has in his power to make for the present, & future Expences that have & may be Incurred to this Colony. I am with all possible respect / Sir

Your most faithfull / Servant

[autograph] B Wentworth

The Right Honble / Sir Thomas Robinson

Copy

[p. 177]

W.m Penn having received by yesterdays post a Letter from Philadelphia, inclosing Coppy of a Letter from Mr. Hamilton who went with others of the Committee of Assembly to the out settlements, and Coppy of a Letter from Mr. Weyser the Provincial Interpreter who had been sent to Susquehannah, thought it proper to send Coppys of them to Mr. Fox, and with them a coppy of a Letter from Mr. Shippen of Lancaster with an account of the designs of the French on the Ohio and their Indians.

Spring Garden

Feb.y 3. 1756.

[p. 180]

Endorsed W.m Penn / Feby 3.d 1756

[p. 101]

Extract of a Letter from the Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania to Mr. Penn.

Sir,

Herewith I send you Duplicate of mine of the 22d. Instant, by way of Bristol, with Copies of the several Papers then sent, since which I am honoured with yours of the 19th. of September & 4th. October, the Latter came by New York and brought me your order for five Thousand Pounds, which came in a most critical time, as the Assembly had sat for sometime without doing anything, and the Back People were very uneasy, and resolv'd to come down in a body, and force the Branches of the Legislature to provide for their defence; the poor People had too much reason to complain, and I much wonder they did not come down sooner, however on Monday Night about Seven hundred Men came to Town, and sent Six of their Leaders to me to let me know they were only humble Supplicants to the Legislature that they might be put in a condition to defend themselves, and hoped I would give them Leave to wait on me next Day, which I did, and only two of their number, in a very humble manner, begg'd of me to do everything in my power to preserve the People,

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LI

for that their dependance was greatly upon me, and hoped that no unreasonable Disputes be-tween me and the Assembly would hinder us from providing for the Safety of the People – I told them I was sorry they were Laid under a necessity to come down to this City to ask for what it was the Duty of the Legislature to af-ford without asking, that I was heartily concern-ed for the unhappy People that had suffered by the hands of the Indians, and for those that were drove from their Habitations, that, had I been enabled by the Assembly, I should most glad-ly have prevented it, and, whenever they would put it in my power, I would untake anything for their preservation, but that all the repeated calls I had made upon them to grant Money, & provide for the defence of the Country, had no other effect, than to draw upon myself, & the Pro-prietarys, reflections, and the worst of Language; that I was then, & always had been willing to pass any Law consistent with my Duty & the Trust reposed in me, by the King, & Proprietarys, but [p. 192] /that I could not nor would not betray my Trust, nor exceed the powers in my Commission. That the Proprietors were too nearly Interested in the Safety of this Country, not to do everything

in their power for it's preservation, and had a most hearty affection for the People, as one proof of which among others I informid them that immediately upon receiving from me the account of General Braddocks defeat, they had sent me an order for £5,000 as a free Gift to the Publick, to assist them in the weight of those Expences, which they were sensible that defeat would make necces-sary, and as great pains had been taken to persuade the People that I had raised the Money by Subscription, among the Merchants, I had your order publickly read - They were all perfectly satis-fied at what I said, and desired they might go to the Assembly, upon which I recommended to them to behave in the same peaceable manner they had done to me, which they promised me they would, & thank'd me for the satisfaction I had given them. their reception at the Assembly was not so much to their satisfaction, as they sent for a few of them only into the House, and told them they would consider the Petition, they said they took greater state upon them than the Gov-ernor, tho' they were only their Representatives, upon this Franklyn harrang'd them, telling them the Assembly had done every thing that was con-sistent with the Liberties & privileges of the people,

for which they, the House, were contending, some of the people answered that they did not know that their Liberties were invaded, but they were sure their Lives & Estates were, and while they were contending the Country was bleeding, and therefore hoped they would dispute no longer but send the Governor such a Bill as he could pass; His harangue had not therefore the effect he desir'd, and I suppose expected, for great pains had been taken by some of the Members, and all their numerous Emissarys to sow sedition in the minds of all these Country People, who were however proof against all their Lies, & having behaved with great decency, while they staid in Town, return'd to the Country, quite satisfied with the Conduct of the Government, but very much otherwise with that of the Assembly; this is the information I have received, and I believe is in substance true; I must own, Sir, that it is letting Government down very low to appeal to a Mob, for such these People were, though a civil one, to judge of the rectitude of their measures, but such are the Circumstances of this Province, that it became absolutely necessary even for the preservation of Peace.

(p. 153)

The Militia Bill that I sent you with my last, has at first view an odd appearance, but

when you consider that it was not intended by the Assembly to pass, but only to raise a clamour against me, you will see it in its true light, this it certainly wou'd have done had I either refused or amended it, but as I have passed it, the clamour is in great measure turned upon them, which induced me to consent to it; for as to the Bill itself it is impossible to carry it into execution, and is therefore no more than waste paper.

I endeavoured to form a Subscription for furnishing the poor back Inhabitants with Arms and Ammunition, & proposed on your part to begin it with one thousand pounds, but I cou'd get no one to subscribe, so that I was drove to the necessity of buying a large quantity of powder & Lead at my own risque, which I sent into the Frontier Counties, and distributed among the People that wanted it most; but this would have availed but Little had not your order arrived in such of time; and had I not just before passed the Militia Bill with no other view but to open the Eyes of the People.

Things being thus circumstanc'd, I resolv'd to get the best Terms I could from the Assembly, and to pass the Bill for a Tax, if it did not

extend to your Estate, but that I was determin'd
[p. 193]
not to come into their way. Two Days after the People were in Town they sent me a Bill for giving Fifty five thousand pounds to the King's use which with your Gift made Sixty thousand, and in Consideration of that Sum they exempt your Estate, I would fain have had that expres-sion Left out, but did not think as the pro-vince was circumstanc'd that it was right to split with them upon it, or upon some other parts of the Bill, which appeard to me unreas-onable; the £55,000 is to be struck in paper Money and sunk by a Tax in four years, the first payment to be in May next, and the Sur-plus of the Tax is subjected to Act of General Assembly, the Money is to be disposed of by Mr. Hamilton, Norris, Franklyn, John Mifflin, Morgan, Fox & one Hughes with the consent and approbation of the Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being, and not otherwise, I would willingly have added two Commissioners more viz, Mr. Allen & Mr. Chew but they would by no means consent to it, and I yesterday gave my assent to it in form.

The points gained by this Bill are, the appropriation of the surplus by Act, the raising Money for Military purposes, and taxing the Quakers

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to that use, but the principal thing gained is a provision for the defence of the Province.

I have received the Packet you sent me from S^r. Thomas Robinson and immediately dis-patch'd the Letter to the other Governments.

Nov^r. 28^th. 1755.

[p. 108]

Easton Monday Evening Decr. 22d. 1755.

Dear Sir

The Commissioners came to this Town on Saturday Evening where we found the Countryun-der the greatest Consternation and everything that has been said of the distress of the Inhabitants more than verified upon our own view. The Coun-try along the River is absolutely deserted from this place to Broadheads, nor can there be the least communication between us and them but by large parties of Armed Men, everybody being afraid to venture without that Security, so that we have had no accounts from thence for several Days. Broad-heads was stoutly defended by his Sons and others 'til the Indians thought fit to retire without being able to take it, or set it on fire, though they frequently attempted it, it is thought several of them were killed in the Attack, but that is not known with certainty.

We have now here upwards of 100 Men being the Companies of Capt Aston, Capt. Trumpr Capt McClanachlin, and are impatiently expecting more from below, for the People here are not very numerous, and are besides very backward in en-tering into the Service, tho' the encouragement is great, and one would think they would gladly

embrace the opportunity of revenging themselves on the Authors of their Ruin, but the Terror that has Seized them is so great or their Spirit so small that unless Men come from other parts of the Province I despair of getting such a number here as will be sufficient to Garrison the Block Houses we proposed to Build over the Hill, whither we intended to have gone to Morrow, but that our Provision Waggons are not come up, and that
[p.156]
we have / not Men enough for the abovementioned purposes.

I understand that Aaron Depuis is still at home and that it is very unlikely that he will be able to Leave his House in this time of Distress to carry your Message to Niomeg. So that I believe the expectation of the Treaty will fall to the Ground. Nor does anybody either here or there believe we have a single Indian that may be called a Friend. nor do I see a possibility of getting that Message conveyed to them from hence, even supposing they were Friends everybody is so afraid of stirring a step without a strong Guard.

I heartily wish you were at Liberty to declare War against them, and offer Large Rewards for Scalps, which appears the only way to clear our Frontiers of these Savages, and will I am

persuaded be infinitely cheapest in the End for I clearly foresee the Expence of defending our=selves in the way we are in will ruin the Province and be far from effectual at last; prin=cipally for want of a good Militia Law, by which the Men might be subjected to Discipline, for at present they enter themselves and then leave their Captains at their own humours with=out a power in the Officer to punish them for that or any other Misbehaviour.

I have Commissioned several Captains here, who engage to raise Men but principally two who have undertaken to range the Country between the two Branches of this River, for the security of the two Irish Settlements in hopes that those who had deserted by the whole of those on the Main Branch, may be induced to return to their Plan=tations, which after all I very much question so very great are their apprehensions of the Indians. [p. 97] I cannot say for certain when we shall leave this place, that depending on the coming up of the Provisions & our getting a sufficient number of Men. Very many of those already here not being able to March for want of Shoes which has obliged us to send down for a Supply to Philadelphia.

I have but a Moments time to write,

the Express being ready to depart, I shall from time to time keep you informed of anything that may be worth your Notice, but at present nothing of that kind offers.

I am with great Respect

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

James Hamilton

[p. 190]

Endorsed Copy / Letter from Mr. Hamilton / to Governor Morris. / Dated 22d Decr 1755.

005/17

[p. 109]

Honoured Sir

On my return from Philadelphia I met in the Township of Amity in Berks County, the first News of our cruel Enemy having invaded the Country this side of the Blue Mountains, (to wit, Bethel and Tulpyhockin. I left the Papers as they were in the Messenger's hands and hasted to Reading where the Alarm & confusion was very great. I was obliged to stay that Night, & part of the next Day (to wit) the 14th of this Instant, and set out for Heidleberg, where I arrived that Evening. Soon after, my Sons Philip and Frederick arrived from the pursuit of the Indians, and gave me the following relation (to wit) that on Sunday Last about 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon, as some Men from Tulyhockin were going to Detrich Six's place under the Hill on Shamokin Road to be on the Watch appointed there, they were fired upon by the Indians but none hurt or killed, our People were but six in number, the rest being behind, upon which our People ran towards the Watch House which was about one half of a Mile off and the Indians pursued them, and killed and scalped several of them. A bold stout Indian came up with one Christopher Uhy who turn'd about and shot the Indian right

through his Breast, the Indian dropt down dead, but was dragg'd out of the way by his Companions, he was found next Day and scalp'd by our People, the Indians divided themselves in two partys, some came this way to meet the rest that was going to the Watch, and killed some of them, so that Six of our Men were killed that Day and a few wounded. The Night following the [p. 190] Enemy / attack'd the House of Thomas Bower on Swatara Creek. they came to the House in the dark Night, and one of them put his Fire Arm through the Window and shot a Shoemaker that was at Work dead upon the spot. the People being extreamly surprizd at this sudden attack, defended themselves by firing out of the Windows at the Indians. the Fire alarmed a Neighbour who came with two or three more Men; they fired by the way and made great noise; scared the Indians away from Bowers House after they had set fire to it, but by Bower's diligence & conduct was timely put out again, so Thomas Bower with his Family went off that Night to his Neighbour Daniel Schneider who came to his Assistance. By 8 o'Clock partys came up from Tulpyhocken and Heidleberg. The first party saw four Indians running off. they had some Prisoners whom they scalp'd immediately, three Children Lay scalped

yet alive, one died since, the other two are Like to do well. Another party found a Woman just expired with a Male Child on her side both hill-ed and scalp'd. The Woman lay upon her Face, my Son turned her about to see who she might have been, and to his and his Companions sur-prize they found a Babe of about 14 Days old under her, wrapped up in a Little Cushion, his Nose quite flat which was set right by Frederich, and Life was yet in it and recovered again. Our people came up with two Parties of Indians that Day but they hardly got sight of them, the Indians ran off immediately; either our people did not care to fight them if they could avoid it, or which is more Likely, the Indians / were [p.191] alarmed first by the Loud noise of our Peoples coming, because no order was observed. Upon the whole there is about 15 killed of our People, in-cluding Men, Women and Children, and the En-emy not beat but scared off. Several Houses and Barns are burned - I have no true account how many. We are in a dismal Situation, some of this Murder has been committed in Tulpyhochin Township, the People Left their Plantations to within 6 or 7 Miles of my House, I am now busy to put things in order to defend myself against another

attack. Guns and Ammunition is very much wanted here, my Sons have been obliged to part with most of that that was sent up for the use of the Indians. I pray your Honour will be pleased if it Lies in your power to send us up a Quantity upon any condition. I must stand myGround or my Neighbours will all go away, and leave their Habitations to be destroyed by the Enemy or our own People. This is enough of such melancholy account for this time. I beg leave to conclude, who am

Sir

Your very dedient
Conrad Weiser

Heidleberg in Berks Country
Novr: the 19th 1755.

P.S. I am creditable (sic) inform'd just now, that one Wolf, a Single man killed an Indian, the same time when Ury killed the other, but the Body is not found yet, the poor young man since died of his Wound through his Belly.
To Govr Morris.

[p. 192]
Endorsed Copy / Conrad Weiser's Letter to / the Governor of Pennsylvania / Datd Novr: 19th 1755.

[p. 192]

Lancaster 16th. December 1755.

Sir

John Harris informs me that the People of Paxton Township have kept out a constant Guard of 30 & 50 Men upwards of 6 Weeks at the Blue Mountain; and that now many of them are Sick and others almost worn out with fatigue, that their happening to omit keeping a Guard but one Night was such a discouragement to the Inhabitants under that Mountain, that several of them moved their Families away and others threatned to follow their Example, if a continual Guard was not kept up for the future, whereupon 10 Men were hired at the Expence of 2/6 ℔ Diem for Eight Days from the 12th. Instant to join 30 Voluntiers who were still willing to give their assistance, in hopes every Day of being relieved by Men employed by the Government, and Harris says if this is not done in a very few Days, it will be impossible to prevent the Inhabitants from removing their Families, and as the Eight Days will be expired next Friday Night, at which time they cannot know the Result of the Commissioners on this head, I have therefore considering their distressed Circumstances ventured to give him Liberty in the Commissrs. name

to keep up a Guard of 30 hired Men a Week longer, as Harris says a less Number will not be sufficient. If these steps are approved of a Letter should be immediately sent to Harris to be communicated to his Neighbours for their encouragement.

I make no doubt but everybody who has considered the Circumstances of the Province
[p. 194] are of opinion that / Block Houses should be built at the Gaps and other convenient Passes of the Mountains along the Frontiers, yet I hope they will agree with me that a Fort should at this time be set up at Shamokin to secure the River Susquehannah, and the Interest of the Indians settled thereon. Mr. Croghan made so short a stay here in his way to Philadelphia that I had not time to discourse with him fully on this Subject; but he told me that he did not much approve of a fort at Shamokin, fearing it would so alarm the French that they might send a strong force in order to overset the pro-ject; yet I think if we should neglect to improve the present opportunity of doing such a thing the French will in all probability put it out of our power for the future.- Indeed Mr. Harris assures me that the Belt of Wampum Monocatootha, and

other friend Indians told him several times that the French had absolutely concluded to build a Fort somewhere on Sasquehannah this Winter, and he has very Lately been informed that the Indians with a few French Men have actu-ally begun to erect a Stockado Fort at an In-dian Town called Chingfeelamouch near the end of the West Branch of Sasquehannah at which Place the Indians who murdered the People on Penns Creek now Live. They also informed him that they were told by two Delawares, who came from the Ohio, that the French had ordered sev-eral hundred Canoes to be built this Winter at the said Indian Town, which is but 40 Miles from Winango from whence there is Water car-riage by going up Tobys Creek 35 Miles. They further informed him that the Indians are as-sembling together on the East Branch of the said River to Stockado their several Towns Keshoquek and Wyoming &c., where they have already Laid [p. 190] in Stores of Indian Corn and other Provisions, which they carried off from the Plantations and Settlements that were Lately deserted by the back Inhabitants.

There is one James Patterson who lives about 50 Miles from Harris's on Juniata, where he has built a Stockade Fort and has 20 Men with him, which

has been the only means of protecting the Settlers thereabouts and keeping them on their Plantations; he is a courageous resolute fellow and puts me in mind of Solomon Jennings, and he is resolved to stand his Ground, if he can be encouraged with a few Arms and some Ammunition, he wants very much to know whether any handsome premium is offered for Scalps, because if there is he is very sure his force will soon be augmented

As the Province has been at the Expence of making a good Road thro' Rays Town, I could heartily wish its circumstances would admit of building a Fort thereabouts and supporting it.

I am

Sir

Your very affectionate Kinsman
and humble Servant
Ed: Shippen

Will.m Allen Esq.r

[p. 96]
Endorsed Copy / Letter from Edward Shippen /
To William Allen Esq.r / Dec.r 16.th: 1755

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[p.149]

Sir

I have received Intelligence, that a large Body of French and Indians were seen to pass the Alleghany Mountains moving towards the Inhabitants of this Province & that a party of them have since passed the Sasquahannah and kill'd all before them and were within five Miles of Harris's Ferry. They may from the defenceless State of this unhappy Province do infinite Mischief and penetrate very far into it. The People are mostly without Arms and struck with such a Panick that they flee as fast as they can from their Habitations.

The Accounts were brought me to this Place and will oblidge me to leave the Assembly in the midst of their Sessions and to hasten to Philadelphia in order to do as much Service as my little Power will enable me. If that Assembly which I have called by Writ to meet me on Monday next shall strengthen my Hands, & do what is incumbent on them, we may be able to make some Resistance But if they shall still be deaf to the [p.150] Calls of their bleeding Country, I do not know what Lengths the Enemy may proceed.

I think it my Duty to give you the earliest Intelligence that you may not only be put on your Guard but afford that Assistance which

the Progress of the Enemy and the safety of the Colonies may require.

If you have any Arms or Ammunition belonging to the Crown not immediately necessary for the Defence of your Province it would greatly assist his Majesty's Service if I could be favour-ed with the use of them, and on your being so kind as to let me have immediate Advice of this I will send for them

I am

Sir

Your most humble/ Servant

Robert H. Morris

Newcastle 29th

8ber 1755

Copy of the Governors Letter to the Gov-ernors of Virginia Maryland New Jersey & New York. [in another hand]

T

[p.208]

Endorsed Governor Morris's Letter / to the Govrs. of Virginia / Maryland New Jersey & / New York / Datd Octr. 29th /1755

[p. 201]

Heidleberg Octo: 26 att 11 a block at night

Mr. James Reed

Loving Friend

This Evening about an hour ago I receid the news of the Enemys having crossed Susquehanna, & killed a great many people from Tho: McKee down to Hunters Mill, Mr. Elders the minister of Paxton wrote this to any presbyterian Minister in yr Neighbourhood of Adam Read Esqr., the people were then in meeting, & immediately dispersed to gett themselves in readiness to oppose the Enemy, & to send Assistance to yr Neighbours, Mr. Read sent down to Sulpyhockin & two men that came from Mr. Read are just now gone that brought me the melancholy news. I have sent out to alarm the Townships in this Neighbourhood, & to meet me early in the morning att Peter Spichers to consult together what to do, & to make preparation to stand the Enemy with the Assistance of the most high. I write you this that you may have time to consult with Mr. Seely, and other wellwishers of the people in order to defend your Lives and others, for God sake lett us stand together, & do what we can and trust to the hands of Providence, perhaps we must in this Neighbourhood come to Reading, butt I will send armed men to Susquehanna

or as far as they can go for Intelligence, pray Lett Jimmy have a copy of this or this itself to his honour the Governor, I have sent him about three hours agoe Express to Philadelphia, & he Lodges att my Son Peters, dispatch him as early as you can, I pray beware of Confusion, be calm you & Mr Seely and act the part as fathers of the people,— I know you are both able, but I excuse for giving this Caution Time requires it, I am dear Sir your very good Fr.d & Hum Servt

Conrad Weiser.

[Mr Read sent me the original of
which the above is a Copy
Robt Morris] [added later]

[p. 208]
Endorsed Conrad Weiser's Letter / to Mr. James Read /
Dat.d Oct.r 26.th 1755 /

[p. 203]

Hon.d Sir,

Last Night I arrived from John Harris's Ferry, and herewith inform you, that I did not reach my home in Heidleberg Berks County, 'til the fourteenth of this Instant. I set out on the Sixteenth for Harris's Ferry, where I found no Indians but the old Belt and another Siniecken called commonly Broken-Thigh a Lame Man. Their young Men about Six or Seven in Number being sent out by John Harris to fetch Scalps from Ohio, but stopt at Achwick by Mr. Croghan. I sent for Thomas Mc.Kee, John Carson and Samuel Hunter to John Harris's to consult with them how to send your Honours Message to the Indians on the West Branch of Sasquehannah, they recommended one Crawford to me, on whom I prevailed to go to Achwick, with the Message, and from there send Indians to the West Branch of Sasquehannah with it, and if the Indians thought it adviseable, to go with them, and conduct them down the River, either himself or James Pattison (who is to go along with him to Achwick) I had the two old Indians in Counsel with me. They received the Message from me, and Hugh Crawford received the Wampum I gave and Necessaries for them, and the Written Invitation from me in the presence of the abovenamed Gentlemen, I hope he

will go through with it.

Upon my first arrival at John Harris I gave a String of Wampum to the two old Indians abovenamed requesting them to look upon
[p. 204]
me as a Publick Messenger from their Brother Onas; and desired them in his behalf to let me know all that they knew about this War, and who it was, that Murdered Onas People? and for what Reason?

Next morning they made answer to the following purport. Brother, we are very glad to see you here once more, at these troublesome times. We look upon you as our Brother Onas's Messenger, as we always did. The Author of the Murder of the People of Pennsylvania, is Onontio, he employs his Children for that purpose, and they came to the River (Sasquehannah) to murder. We are sorry to tell you, that they have prevailed upon our Cousins the Delawares Living about halfway from Shamokin to Scahantowano (Wayomack) in a Town called Neskopeekin. Them Indians have given their Town (in defiance of us their Uncles to Onontios Children as a place of Rendezvous, and had undertaken to join and guide them the way to the English, That thereupon the Shichalemys and others of the Six Nations,

fled toward the Six Nation Country: That a Re-
-port was spread among the Delawares on that
River, that the Pennsylvanians were coming with
Thousands to destroy the Indians on Sasquehannah,
which had occasioned the Six Nations before Named
to fly, because they would not fight against their
Brethren now against the Indians, and that every
Thing was in a great confusion. I am

Hon.d Sir

Your most obedient

Conrad Weiser

Heidleberg in the County,
of Berks,
December 22.d 1755.

P.S. Your Honour will have heard by this time, [p.203]
that Paxton People took an Enemy Indian on
the other side of the Narrows above Samuel Hunters
and brought him down to Larson's House, where
they were examining him. The Indian begged
his Life, and promised to tell all what he knew
to morrow morning, but (shocking to me) they
shot him in the midst of them, scalped him
and threw his Body into the River. The Old
Belt told me that as a Child of Onontio he
deserved to be killed, but that he would have

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been very glad if they had delivered him up to the Governor in order to be examined strictet and better. I am

Honourd Sir

Your most obedient

B. Weiser

Decr. 22d. 1755.

To Govr. Morris.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. William Peters to Mr. Penn.

In our last Franklin's Paper was publishd a Defence and Explanation, by way of Dialogue, of our Late Militia Law, supposed to be his per-formance and intended to pave the way for the Meetings this Week of some of our Citizens for choosing their Officers in compliance with that part of the Act which is expected to be a Pre-cedent for the rest of the Province: But I am told the Companies to be formed in consequence of these Elections don't intend to sign or be bound [p.206] by the general Articles to be framed for the Govern-ment of the Militia of the Province in pursuance of the Act, nor to be obliged to march out of the

Limits of the City. So that I fancy the great Sticklers for these Meetings will find themselves mistaken in the main point, that of getting these Companies to sign the Articles of War if one could suppose any such can ever be made, under this villainous absurd Law.

Endorsed Copy of a Letter from Conrad Weyser to Governor Morris decem^{r}. 22^{d}. 1755.

[p.207]

Newcastle Oct^{r}. 28th. 1755.

Sir,

I have only time by a Ship to Liverpoole now coming down the River, to send you the enclosed Letters from Conrad Weiser, which this minute came to my hands, giving an account of the motion of the French and Indians and of their destroying some of the Inhabitants on this side the Sasquehannah.— Upon this Intelli-gence I have issued Writs to summon the As-sembly to meet on the third of Nov^{r}. and tho' it is very disagreable to me to have any thing to say to a Sett of Men that have treat-ed me in the manner they have done, yet as His Majesty's Service and the safety of the Pro-vince requires it I have called them together, but have no great reason to expect that they will do any thing to the purpose, unless I come into their measures.

I have wrote to the Neighbouring Governors to be upon their Guard, and to be ready to af-ford such assistance as the progress of the En-emy, & the Safety of the Colonys may require, of which I send you a Copy inclos'd.

I shall send away an Express to General Shirley this Day to demand such a detachment of the regular Troops now at Albany, as his

[p. 206]

Majesty's Service in that part of the Continent will admit him to spare, and for an order for some part of the Powder now remaining at Fort Cumberland.

I can only assure you that upon this and every other occasion I shall do my utmost for the safety and defence of the Province and have the honour to be

Sir .

Your most obedient
and most humb. Servant
Robt. H. Morris

[p. 207]

Endorsed Copy / Letter from the Governor / of Pennsylvania / to Mr. Penn / Dat.d 28.th Octr. 1755

[p.211]

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen,

The Secretary will Lay before you the Copys of sundry Petitions that have been pre-ferred to me by the Inhabitants of several parts of the Province, representing their naked and de-fenceless condition and praying means may be supplied to enable them to defend themselves, which you are sensible is not in my power to com-ply with. He will also lay before you a Letter I received last Night from John Harris giving an account of a large party of In-dians, actually set out from the French Fort, with a design to fall upon, and destroy, the Inhabitants of this and the Neighbouring Pro-vinces. You have, Gentlemen, this piece of Intelligence as I received it, and will form your own Judgement of the Truth of it, for my part I think it probable, and therefore recommend it to you to take immediate thought about it, as the consequences will be very terrible to the Inhabitants, if this account be true, and it can do them no injury to be upon their Guard, if it should prove false.

Philadelphia
Augst 15th 1755.

Robt H: Morris

[p. 212]

Endorsed Pennsylvania / a Message from
the Govr. / to the Assembly. / Datd Augt. 15d. 1755.

At a Council held at Carlisle Friday the 16th [p.215] of January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton, William Logan } Esqrs Joseph Fox Esqr.

The Belt, Seneca George, Newcastle, Sagrea, Silver Heels, Isaac, and others . . . . } Indians

Conrad Weiser and George Croghan Esqrs. Interpreters.

The Belt recited the substance of what was said yesterday upon the first Belt. then said,

Brethren,

When we of the Six Nations Living on the Ohio were first informed of the French Designs to take possession of Lands upon that River, We resolved in conjunction with the Shawanese and Delawares, and other their Allies to hinder them from doing it, and sent the Late half King to the French Commander then on his March with a Body of Men for that purpose to forbid him to proceed, and to require him to return home to Canada; that the Half King and others with with him pursuant to that resolution, met the French Commander and forbid him accordingly,

but he paid no regard to their prohibition but moved on, which Lead us to enquire into the cause of that their Boldness and presumption, [p. 218] in taking possession of a Country belonging to the Six Nations, not only without their Leave, but contrary to their Express and solemn prohibition by the Half King, and we then first Learnt that the French had prevailed upon the Shawonese who were a Nation in Alliance with the Six Nations, and living by their sufferance upon a part of their bountry and upon the Delawares, who were a Tribe conquered by and entirely dependant upon them, to enter into a separate and private Treaty with them, by which they the Shawanese and Delawares had agreed not only to permit the French to take possession of the Country upon the Ohio, as far as they would, but to assist them against the English, if their aid should be found necessary in the Contest which the taking possession of that Country should occasion.

That in consequence of this secret Treaty, and upon the persuasions of the French who have acquired a considerable influence over those two Tribes, they had fallen upon the English, and done the mischief complained of without any just reason or cause that we know of or ever heard-

That the Shawanese indeed pretended that the imprisonment of some of their Chiefs in South Carolina is the cause of their Conduct, but we look upon that as a meer pretence, as those Chiefs were released upon the application of the Gov-ernment of Pennsylvania and by them returned in safety to their Nation.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

In answer to that part of your Speech [p. 209] de-siring our advice upon the present critical State of your affairs. We can only say, that we are ready and willing to give you our best advice and assistance, but as you have sent Messages to the Six Nations in their great Council, We think it more prudent to wait for theirs, that we may know their resolutions, and this we are the rather inclined to, as we ourselves by your Messengers Scarrigady and Montour sent a Message of our own to enforce yours; and giving thereby our Sentiments to the united Council. And we would not have you uneasy at not receiving an an-swer, for the Season of the year is bad, and the Numbers of the great Council live remote from each other, and require time to get together.

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Then the Belt spoke as a Warrior.

Brethren,

We are sorry our Number is not greater, but few as we are, we are all Warriors and at your Service whenever you call upon us - We es-teem the Blood that has been shed in this Coun-try as running from our own Veins, and as the French are the cause of it, we esteem them our Enemies, and shall whenever you think proper se-verely revenge it upon them - The ensuing Spring may furnish you and us with a favourable op-portunity when we shall gladly join & assist you against them.

[4.216]

Endorsed Minutes of a Council / held at Carlisle Jan.y 14 / 16th 1756

[p. 217]

Heidleberg in ye County of Berks
Octr ye 26th 1755 at 5 o'clock in
ye Evening

Sir

Just now two of my Sons to wit Fredrich & Peter arrived from Shomokin, where they have been to help down their Cousin with his Family; I gave them orders before they went to bring me down a trusty Indian or two to inform myself of ye present Circumstances of Indian affairs; but they brought none down: They saw Jonathan, but He could not leave his Family in these dangerous Times. —

Whilst they were at George Gabriels, a Messenger came from Shomokin sent by James Logan one of Shikellimy's Sons, & Lapalkpiton a noted Delaware, always true to ye English, to let George Gabriel know that they had certain Intelligence, that a great Body of French & Indians had been seen on their march towards Pennsylvania at ye place where Kinaghzon River comes out of ye Allegeny Hills, & that if the White People will come up to Shomokin, & assist they will stand ye French & fight them. They said that now they want to see their Brethren's Faces, & will armed, with smooth Guns, no rifled Guns, which require too much cleaning; they in particular desired ye Company then

gathered at George Gabriel's, Capt. McKees & John Harris's, they being informed that People had gathered there; & that they are extremely concerned for all ye white Peoples running away; & said they could not stand ye French alone; This Message was delivered to George Gabriel, & about ten whites more, among whom were my two Sons, by a Delaware Indian named Enoch & a white Man called Laurence Burke; who came with ye Indians as a companion the Indian Messenger who brought ye News to Shamokin from ye Indians living up ye River Tinachrson (Sus) (ye north-west Branch of Susquehanna) arrived at Shamokin at midnight before ye 23d of this Instant. The Indians are extremely concerned, as my Sons tell me, people are coming away in great Hurry. The Rest who stay plundering the Houses, & make ye best of other (plun) peoples Misfortune; The French want to see Jonathan taken prisoner all this in great Hurry. I pray, good Sr, don't slight it The lives of many thousand are in ye utmost Danger. It is no false Alarm.

I am

Honord & Dr Sr

ye very Obedient

Conrad Weiser

To the Govr.

[P. 20]

P:S: If a Body of men would go up they could gather Plenty of Indian Corn, Beef & other Provisions now everything

is in y^e utmost Confusion. I suppose in a few Days not one Family will be seen on y^e other Side of Kittotany Hills.

Endorsed Letter from Conrad Weiser / to the Govern=nor of Pennsylvania / Dat.^d 26.^th Oct.^r 1755

[continuation of p 132.]

Then the Governor applying himself to the [p.202]
Speaker said.

Mr. Speaker & Gentlemen
of the Assembly . . . .

You have heard what the Indians have said, without your Aid. I cannot make a proper answer to what they now propose and expect of us; I therefore desire you will return to your House, consider well of it; and whenever you will strengthen my Hands, and enable me to give them a full and proper answer, I shall most readily, do it.

A true Copy Examin'd by
Richard Peters Secry

Endorsed Copy. / Pennsylvania / Minutes of Council / [p.202]
Novr. 8th 1755.

[p. 223]

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday Night the Eighth Day of November 1755.

Present

The honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell
Lynford Lardner
Thomas Cadwalader
Richard Peters
John Mifflin
} Esquires

The Governor directed the Secretary to lay before the House the Copy of the Indian Treaty which they had requested in their Message of the fifth Instant, and demand the Papers that had been last sent to them, marked No. 17. to No. 25.

He returnd and acquainted the Governor that the House was adjourned, but having met the Speaker, he delivered the Indian Treaty to him, and demanded the Papers, and the Clerk was directed to deliver them.

The Governor inform'd the Council, that he propos'd to set out immediately to the back Counties; Whereupon the Board went into the Consideration of the several Matters necessary to be done before the Governor's departure. The first thing that occurred was to send for Mr. Weiser and the Indians, and acquaint them with the Governor's

Journey; which being done, they conferred together, and made the following Speech.

Brother the Governor,

"It gives us concern to see you prepar-
"-ing to go out of Town, being apprehensive, that
"when you are gone our Business will be neg-
"-lected; indeed if you go, We shall take all for
"lost, and therefore we request you in the most
"pressing Terms not to go, but to stay with your
"Council and Assembly, and come to a determin-
[p.224]
"-ation for the important point we have spoke to
"you upon. We declare if we fail in this present
"application We will not come here again nor
"trouble ourselves further with this Province but
"leave it to its own destruction, and provide for
"our own Safety in some other place, and in
"the best manner we can. Be so good therefore
"as to grant our Request and stay in Town. We
"shall then have some hopes of Success, otherwise we
"shall have none."

The Governor considering that to morrow was Sunday and the Assembly had adjourned themselves, and therefore to stay for their answer would occasion a long delay, that might prove prejudicial to the back Inhabitants, desired the advice of his Council on this new difficulty; and

they fearing least the suffering these Indians to go away without receiving a full & proper satisfaction might occasion the loss of them and all our friend-ly Indians, which would be of the last consequence, unanimously advised the Governor to stay and use his utmost endeavours with his Assembly to strength-en his hands, and enable him to engage these and the other Indians, and take other vigorous measures at this time.

Then the Governor acquainted the Indians, that at their Instance he would put off his Jour-ney, for which they returned him thanks, and enter'd into a very serious conference, wherein they declared they were reduced to the last extremity— They could not even stay at Shamokin, but were oblig'd to retreat higher up the River, and had agreed to a place called Nescopechen, about twenty five Miles from Shamokin, which might have been prevented if the Government had paid a proper Regard to their repeated Sollicitations for a Supply [p.227] of Arms and Ammunition for their Warriors/and of Necessaries for their Wives and Children— That in particular they pressed this after the return of Scarrooyady from his Journey up Sasquehannah—, assuring the Governor, that all those Indians had agreed to come together, and live nearer to the

English Settlements, that they might be within call, and all they desired besides a supply of Necessaries for the Support of their Wives and Children was to be provided with Arms and Ammunition at the publick Expence, and to see some of the English young Men among them, who might be Witnesses of their Conduct, be trained up to fight as they did, and go out to War with them. Let this be done even now, said they, and you shall see we will take some French Scalps, and send them by your own young Men to this City, for you to see with your own Eyes that we hate and will des-troy the French as much as you do.

Scarrooyady being asked what number of Indians lived on the Sasquehannah, said about three hundred, who were all hearty in the English In-terest, and waited with impatience his Return, and to know the Success of his Application.

A true Copy examin'd by
Richard Peters Secry

[p. 226]
Endorsed Copy / Pennsylvania / Minute of Council
Saturday / Night 8th Novr: 1755.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday the Eighth Day of November 1755. A.M.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, John Mifflin, Lynford Lardner, Richard Peters } Esqrs

Scarooyady, Andrew Montour, Scarooyady's Son and Jagrea came into Council with Conrad Weiser Esquire Interpreter.

The Governor bid the Indians welcome; was particularly obliged to them for this visit; and would be glad of their advice in these dangerous times.

Scarrooyady Speaker

Brethren,

Since we saw one another last, affairs have taken a great turn. We have now need to look about us in this dangerous time, I came down on purpose to encourage both Governor, Council, Wise Men and Warriors; I have something to say to them. of very great consequence.

Gave a String

Scarrooyady then proceeds

Brethren,

Two Messengers came from Ohio to an

Indian Town at the Big Island on Sasquehannah, and seeing an Englishman that by Accident happened to be there, they said kill him. No say the Indians of the Big Island, we will not kill him, nor suffer him to be kill'd; We have lived in
[p.227]
peace many Years with the/English here; if you are so blood thirsty, go somewhere else for Blood; go where the Blood already covers the Ground, We will have no Blood spilt here. There two Messengers were Delawares, and said further, that they had something very extraordinary to say to them; and then, producing a Belt, offered to deliver a Message from the Governor of Canada; but the Sasquehannah Indians stopped them, desiring they would defer their Speech til they could send for some of their Neighbours; and when their Neighbours came they delivered the following Speech in the Name of Onontio.

Children.

I have often warned you to move from this River, You are Children, you must now go where I cannot have you; you are in my way, You must not stay any longer I will allow you to wear a Little Hatchet that can kill a Bear or a Dear, or an Englishman, a Little Hatchet will serve for this purpose. You wear Petticoats, do not therefore concern yourselves in War, nor enquire anything about

Warriors; only move away from this River that you may not stand in my way. If you want Powder and Lead I have enough at Ohio, it Lies there in heaps, and you may have what quan-tity you please. This last part of the Speech was made to the Delawares and no Indians else.

Gave a Belt of Wampum

The two Ohio-Delawares proceeded and told the Indians to send for all the Indians that were among the English. If Orontio finds any of your Indians among the white People he will kill them, and therefore he gives you this warning, and be sure mind what we say.

The two Messengers said further. We the Delawares of Ohio do proclaim War against the English. We have been their Friends many years, but now have taken up the Hatchet against them, and we will never make it up with them while there is an Englishman alive. /We tell You that the French (Speech) have a numerous alliance of other Indians as well as the Delawares in this War.

(Danced the War Dance)

Then said further. When Washington was defeated, We, the Delawares, were blam'd as the Cause of it. We will now kill. We will not be blamed without a Cause. We make up three parties

of Delawares. One party will go against Carlisle; One down the Sasquehannah; and I myself with another party will go against Tulpyhockin to Conrad Weiser. And We shall be followed by a Thousand French and Indians, Otawawoes, Twightwees, Shawonese and other Delawares.

The French have on this occasion, summoned in all their Allies, and they are preparing to come. The number I am not certain of; But all the Indians except the Chickasaws are for the French, and the Thousand Indians before mentioned had actually left the Fort, before we, the Messengers came away.

Then Scarrooyady acquainted the Governor, that he had a Message to deliver from the Sasquehannah Indians to the Governor, Wisemen, and People of this Province, and desired to be heard in Publick, and that the Assembly might be present.

The Governor sent a Message by the Secretary to give the Assembly notice of this, and appointed three o'block in the afternoon in the State House to hear the Indian Message.

A true Copy Examin'd by
Richard Peters Secry

[p.230]

Endorsed Copy / Pennsylvania / Minute of Council

[p.221]

A Representation to the General Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania; by some of the principal Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia in the said Province.

Gentlemen,

At a time when a bold and barbarous Enemy has advanced within about a hundred Miles of our Metropolis, carrying Murder and Desolation along with them, and when we see the Country already stained with the Blood of many of its Inhabitants, & upwards of a Thousand Families, who Lately enjoyed peace and comfort in their own Habitations, now dispersed over the Province, many of them in the most miserable & starving Condition, exposed to all the hardships and severity of the Season; we say, in such a Situation we should think ourselves greatly wanting in Regard for our own personal Safety, as well as in Compassion for our bleeding & suffering Fellow Subjects, if we did not thus publickly join our Names, to the Number of those who are requesting you to pass a Law, in order to put the Province in a posture of defence, & put a stop to those Savage Outrages which must otherwise soon prove our Ruin.

We hope we shall always be enabled to preserve that Respect to You, which we would willingly pay to those who are the faithful Representatives of the Freemen of this Province. But on the present occasion, you will forgive us, Gentlemen, if we assume Characters something higher than that of humble Suitors, praying for the defence of our Lives & Properties, as a matter of Grace & Favour on your side. You will permit us to make a positive and immediate Demand of it as a matter of perfect and unalienable [p.292] Right on our own parts, both by the Laws of God & Man, and to this we are induced by the following Considerations.

1st. The approach of Winter brings the dreadful Prospect of the continual Increase of the inroads of those preying Savages upon our Inhabitants, unless a proper force is immediately provided, to protect & defend them.

2dly. The proper and natural force of every Country is it's Militia without which we know of no Government that ever could subsist itself; for it is highly unreasonable to think that the Burden of Defence should fall upon a few Individuals.

3dly. Consequently we conceive it a subversion of the very end of Government to deny that Legal

protection to the Governed for obtaining of which Government was originally instituted.

4thly In our own particular Case, altho' Men could be found willing to risk their Lives for the sake of the Publick, and altho' they could be subjected to ne-cessary Order and Discipline, without the Aid or Encouragement of Law, (neither of which we conceive possible) yet it would neither be advise-able for the sake of such Men themselves nor yet for the sake of publick Liberty, to keep up an armed Force in the Province, without the Sanction & Authority of Law, especially as it is so much in your power to give such a Sanc-tion and Authority.

5thly Unless the defence of the Province and of our Indian Allies, is made an Act of the whole Legis-lature, & vigorously gone into; the Indians now in Town, have publickly declared for themselves and their Friends, who yet remain in our Interest, that they can no longer repose any faith in us, but must shift for their own safety, and leave us to our-selves as a People void of Spirit or Conduct.

6thly We are of opinion that no Sums of Money, how-ever great will answer the purposes of Defence, with-out such a Law as we desire. We cannot therefore think that it shews a proper Regard for the Lives of [5-233]

the People of this province, at such a time to propose Sums of Money in the room of such a necessary Law, and to propose raising those Sums too in a manner that must occasion unavoidable Disputes and Delays, when there are so many unexceptionable ways and means, agreable to which the People in general are extremely ready to pay any proportion of their pro-perty for the Preservation of the Remainder.

Upon the whole, Gentlemen, we must be permitted to repeat our Demand, that you will immediately frame and offer a Law for the Defence of the Province, in such a manner as the present Exigency requires. The time does not admit of many Hands to be put to this Representation. But if Numbers are necessary we trust that we shall neither want a sufficient number of Hands nor Hearts to second and support us 'til we finally obtain so just and reasonable a Demand.

The above was Signed by the Mayor, Corporation and an hundred & fifty of the Inhabitants.

[p.234]

Endorsed Copy/ Representation of the/ Inhabitants of Philadelphia /to the General Assembly of the/ Province of Pennsylvania.

[p. 225]

To the Representatives of the Freemen of the Province of Pennsylvania in General Assembly met, the Address of some of the People called Quakers in the said Province on behalf of themselves & others.

The Consideration of the Measures which have Lately been pursued, and are now proposed having been weightily impressed on our Minds, We apprehend that we should fall short of our Duty to you, to ourselves, and to our Brethren in Religious fellowship if we did not in this manner inform you, that altho' we shall at all times heartily & freely contribute according to our circumstances, either by the Payments of Taxes or in such other manner as may be judged necessary towards the Exigencys of Government, & sincerely desire that due Care may be taken & proper Funds provided for raising Money to cultivate our friendship with our Indian Neighbours, and to support such of our Fellow Subjects, who are, or may be in Distress; and for such other Like Benevolent Purposes; yet as the raising Sums of Money and putting them into the hands of Committees who may apply them to purposes inconsistent with the peaceable Testimony we profess and have born (sic) to the World, appears to us, in its Consequences to be destructive of our Religious Liberties,

we apprehend many among us will be under the ne-
-cessity of suffering rather than consenting thereto, by
the Payment of a Tax for such purposes, and thus the
fundamental part of our Constitution may be essen-
-tially affected, and that free Enjoyment of Liberty
of Conscience for the sake of which our forefathers left
their Native Country & settled this, then a Wilderness,
by degrees be violated.

We sincerely assure you we have no tem-
[p.2?6] -poral /motives for thus addressing you, and could
we have preserved peace in our own Minds,
and with each other, we should have de-
-clined it, being unwilling to give you any
unnecessary trouble, and deeply sensible of
your difficulty in discharging the Trust
committed to You irreproachably in these
perilous times, which hath engaged our fer-
-vent Desires that the immediate Instruc-
-tion of Supreme Wisdom may influence
your minds, and that being preserved in
a steady Attention thereto you may be en-
-abled to secure Peace & Tranquility to your-
-selves, and those you represent, by pursuing
Measures consistent with our peaceable
principles and then we Trust We may con-
-tinue humbly to confide in the protection

of that Almighty power whose Providence has here-
-tofore been as Walls & Bulwarks round about us.

Anthony Morris Junr.	John Smith
Wm. Moode	Anthony Benezet
Israel Pemberton	Anthony Morris
Thomas Brown	Samuel Powell
Thomas Lightfoot	John Churchman
John Pemberton	William Brown
Mordecai Yarnall	Isaac Yeans
Joshua Fisher	Daniel Stanton
Samuel Sampson	Edward Cathrell
Isaac Greenleaf	John Reynell

Endorsed Copy / Address of the Quakers / to the [page]
Assembly of / Pennsylvania

To Thomas Penn and Richard Penn Esq.rs Proprie-
-taries of the Province of Pennsilvania.

The Address of the Monthly Meeting of
Friends in Philadelphia the first Day of
the first Month 1756.

Honoured Friends

Excited by a grateful commemoration of the Wisdom, Virtue & Benevolence of your venerable Father, & animated with sincere desires that his ex-
-cellent Example may be followed by his Descend-
-ants, and the Glory of God & good of Men evi-
-dently appear to be the principal object in their View, We are engag'd in this time of difficulty and dis-
-tress to address you, hoping that it will be ac-
-ceptable to have this Testimony of Gratitude and Re-
-spect from a number of your faithful Friends, who are willing to demonstrate our steady attachment to your real Interest and to chearfully contribute towards the maintaining that Harmony which hath heretofore happily subsisted between us, and render'd the Ad-
-ministration of the Government honourable to you, and worthy of the voluntary obedience of a Free People.

We are sensible that various occurrences have contributed to create a Jealousy, that those Ties of Grati-
-tude are erased in many Minds, which formerly united

them in affection and duty to your Family, and are therefore the more earnestly concerned to manifest a disposition to frustrate every attempt to subvert that connection of our Interests which is essential to their preservation, and to restore our mutual Confidence
[p. 250]
and Resolution in the supporting the Constitution of the Government on its ancient Establishment; and as the Rights and Powers of the Proprietaries have never appeared to us inconsistent with the Liberties of the People, We cannot esteem such to be our friends, who in extending the former or contending for the Latter would promote measures destructive of both: Liberty of Conscience being the fundamental Article of our Constitution, & the strongest external Bond of our Peace and Tranquility, we cannot without the deepest concern observe any measures tending to the violation of it: In Lesser Matters we are convinced the advice of your worthy Father should be religiously remembered, "to yield in Circumstantials, to preserve "Essentials, with his Promise of the People's being safe "in his Esteem while they remained so in eachother", Sentiments we hope will meet with your approbation, as it will afford us the most solid satisfaction to perpetuate them in our respective Stations.

We have long desired to see one of you at least settled among us, there has never been a

juncture in which your presence was more necessary; permit us therefore to urge your speedy gratifying our Wishes that by your Examples our purposes may be confirmed of encouraging virtue and suppressing Vice, thus Righteousness which exalteth Nations may encrease and Peace and Prosperity be restored within this Province.

With the Salutation of True Respect we are

Your real Friends &c,

Signed by Sixty two Persons.

[p. 258]

Endorsed The Address of the Monthly Meeting of Friends in Philad.a / to Thomas Penn & Richd. Penn Esqrs /

Dat.d Jan.y 1.st 1756.

[p.249]

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Hamilton to Mr. Penn Philad.a Dec.r 15.th 1755.

I clearly foresee that the Expence of de-fending so large a Frontier with 500 Men in con-stant pay, which is the least that can be pro-posed, at the rate of 3/. ℔ Diem besides Arms Ammunition & Blankets, the furnishing at the pub-lick Expence all such others on the Borders as are willing to use them, with Arms and Ammunition, the large rewards that must be offer'd for Scalps & Prisoners so soon as by the ensuing Treaty, the the Governor is enabled to make a discrimination between our Friends and Enemies, the charge of build-ing and furnishing some strong Forts in suitable Places with a great many other unavoidable heavy Expences, will soon run away with the greatest part of the Money now granted.

You will also easily perceive how greatly the Expence of defending the Province is enhanced by the want of a good Militia Law, which reduces us to the necessity of employing Mercenaries at such extravagant Wages. Some pains should certainly be taken to procure such an One, or the Defence of this Province will prove a Burthen too heavy to bear. the Late Law passed here for that purpose being the

very quintessence of absurdity, and only offer'd in hopes of its being rejected, in order that the Quakers [p.244] might save appearances with the Ministry at home, & that a still further share of blame might be accumulated upon the Governor for either not passing it, as it stands, or for amending it in such manner as to make it of any use.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. William Peters to Mr. Penn Dated Jan.y 24th. 1756.

[Penn-Gratz: Mr. Penn has no Letter since this date.]

N.o 3, is a Copy of a Letter I am sending by order of the Council by Express to General Shirley on the recruiting Officers beginning to inlist Servants, which giving great uneasiness here the Council have agreed immediately to write to the General to try if they can prevail on him to put a stop to it. It is said here that he declares he must make up his Corps 20,000 Men to be ready for an early Campaign in the Spring, which if true will I doubt force them to take Servants or they cannot possibly make up that compliment of Men time enough; tho' they have already, I am perswaded, raised and taken from this Province, near Two thousand Men within twelve Months last past.

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Extract of another Letter from the same

'Tis said George Croghan, who has a Capt-
-tain's Commission is gone out against the Indians
with 180 Men [p. 24 s] and we expect several others in this
vacant Season when all Husbandry Work is at
a stand, especially amongst the poor unhappy Suf-
-ferers on the Borders will be induced by the Re-
-wards for Scalps to go out in strong Partys against
them, before the opening of the Spring, when, if a
piece of Intelligence got from an Enemy Indian Pris-
-oner taken in Northampton County prove true, we
shall have enough to do to defend ourselves against
a Body of 5,000 French and Indians which that Pris-
-oner says are to fall upon this Province - But be that
as it will, it will be very happy for us if the Indians
can during the Winter be drove away from our Borders,
that our People may be at Liberty to return to their Plan-
-tations, and as many of them as can be spared join
in carrying into execution the Scheme settled at the
Congress ('tis supposd) for attacking Fort Du Quesne.

We hear that some Gentlemen from Virginia
are gone amongst the Cherokees to endeavour to en-
-gage them heartily in our Interest, the Success where-
-of will give us more Light into the Designs of
the Indians in general.

[p. 266]

Endorsed: It is inclosed p. 267 [illegible] Extract of a Letter from/
Mr. Hamilton to Mr. Penn/Dat.d/ Dec.r 15.th 1755

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[p. 247]

March 3d 1756.

Mr. Penn gave Copies of three Letters, One from Mr. Hamilton, One from Conrad Weiser, & one from Mr. Shippen, dated the Middle of Decr., from different Parts of Pensylvania: these Letters are full of the Distresses of the Country from the Indians, who take all Opportunities of making Incursions, & murdering the Inhabitants; & that the present way of defending themselves will be far from effectual, for want of a good Militia Law, as the Men enter themselves, and leave their Captains again, at their own Humour, & the Officers have no Power to punish them. [p. 248] It is said, the Companies to be formed at Philadelphia in consequence of the late Militia Law, don't intend to sign or be bound by the general Articles to be framed, in pursuance of that Act, or to be obliged to march out of the Limits of the City. — Block Houses or Forts should be built to secure the Passes, particularly One at Shamokin, to secure the Sasquehannah; It is said the French design to build a Fort, at the End of the West Branch of that River, this winter

[Endorsed]

[4.350]

Endorsed Substance of Papers / delivered by Mr.
Penn / March 3d 1456

[p.201]

Fort George New York 6th Jan.y 1756.

Sir

Since I had the honor of writeing you of the 18th of last Month, I have received from the Commanding Officer of Fort William Henry a Journal of Lieut. Poor of that Garison who was sent out with a Scouting Party to observe the Motions of the French at the Pass of Tiongeroga at the North End of Lake George Copy of which I herewith Inclose you, together with the Journal of Captain Rogers sent from thence, since, on the same account, Also the Examinations of a French Deserter from Tionderoga taken by the Commanding Officers of Forts William Henry and Edward,

I hope the scarsity of Provisions complained of by this Deserter, may prove true, as the Provinces by a carefull and timely Prohibition, may reduce them to great necessity in this particular; if inforced with the same Success as Admiral Boscowens (sic) Fleet had, in Intercepting their Supplys from Europe last Year.

I have the honor to be / Sir,

Your most Obedient / and Humble Servant

Chas Hardy [Autograph]

The Right Hon.ble Sir Thomas Robinson

[p.202]

Endorsed New York Jan.y 6.th 1756. / Sir Chas. Hardy / Ry March 11.th

[p. 258]

Fort Edward December 24th. 1755 –

The Examination of Francis Beaujour French Man Deserter. –

Ques: When did you leave Jenonderoga (Sic)

Answ: Last Monday morning.

Ques: What was the Number of Forces then at that Fort.

Answ: 200 Regulars and one Hundred Canadians. also 40 Savages. Viz.t 20 Abnoquier (Sic), and 20 Iroquois –

Ques: When did those Savages come to Jenon-deroque (Sic)?

Answ: They came there the 15th. Instant –

Ques: What Duty do they do?

Answ: Scouting. –

Ques: Do you suppose any on that Duty now?

Answ: Yes, Eight and they are ordered to Scout near this and the other Fort, and are promised 1000 Livers (Sic) a premium if they Attain a Prisoner –

Ques: Who is Commandant at Jenonderoqo (Sic)?

Answ: Monsieur Lacorn (Sic).

Quest: How many Men are there now at Crown Point?

Answ: Fifty Regulars and Fifty Canadians.

Quest: How Long since the Army returned to Canada?

Answ: They returned on the 14th of this Instant.

Quest: How many did the whole Army Consist of?

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Answ: Three Thousand five Hundred Viz.t 2000 of which were of the Regim.ts Le Rine and Languidoc the rest Canadians –

Quest: Was it known by your Frees, that the English Army were returned home?

Answ: Not.

Quest: How many did the French suppose the English Army Consisted of now?

Answ: Five Thousand.

Quest: Why did they leave Tenonderoga while they suppos'd our Army so great?

Answ: Scarcity of Provisions –

[p 256]

Quest: What Quantity of Provisions have they now at Tenonderoga

Answ: Two Hundred Barrils Flower and about fifty Barrils Pork no rum nor Brandy.

Quest: Is there a General Scarcity of Provisions at Canada?

Answ: General Report, that Provisions are Scarce.

Quest: Why are Provisions Scarce?

Answ: 'Tis said that the Provisions sent for our Support were taken by the English –

Quest: Do they expect the English Army will Attack Tenonderoga this Winter?

Answ: Yes.

Quest: Do they expect their Forces back from

Canada this Winter?

Answ: Not.

Quest: Have you heard any talk from them of Making any Attack on either of our Forts this Winter?

Answ: No

Quest: What sort of Fort is that at Tenonderoga?

Answ: It is about the bigness of Fort William Henry of a Quadrangular Form, with four Bastions the wall about six Foot high and no Ditch, it being Rocky were obliged to fetch the Dirt that was necessary from Distance, that three Sides were but cut Wood and Earth the other only with Wood founded on a Rock.

Quest: How many Barracks are there in the Fort?

Answ: Two that will Contain three Hundred Soldiers besides one Barrack for the Officers.

Quest. How many Guns are there within the Fort?

Answ: Twelve, Eight 12 Pounders, & 4 Six Pounders & no Morters—

Quest: Which is the best side for an Enemy to Approach the Fort?

Answ: The North West—

Quest: Was you at the Battle of Lake George?

Answ: No

Quest: How many was there in the French Army at that Battle?

Answ: About fifteen Hundred.

[p.259]

Quest: What was the Number Supposed killed, on your Side in that Battle?

Answ: The Number talked of was two Hundred, but the Officers were forbid to tell the certain Number—

Quest: What did they judge was become of General Dieshau?

Answ: It was reported he was killed in Battle, but since heard by a Letter from Mons^r. Longuill that he was a Prisoner—

Quest: Was there any principal Officers besides him that did not return after the Battle?

Answ: Yes, Mons^r. St. Pierre, Mons^r. Longuill Son to the Lieutenant Governor of Montreal, and Eight other Officers—

Quest: Did they bring any English Prisoners to the Camp after the Battle?

Answ: No, but it was reported that there were seven taken but were delivered to the Indians who killed them all—

Quest: Is there any more Frenchmen that talk of Deserting?

Answ: Yes; a Number about thirteen—

Quest: Do you know what Numbers were left at Niagara and Catraqua?

Answ: That the two Regiments that went there

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last Summer were Returned, and know not how many ~~are~~ were (viz) left behind.

The above Named Francis Beaujour swore to the truth of the above answers upon the Holy Evangelists.

N Whiting

A True Copy Examined by
Benj: Barons
Secretary.

[p. 209]

Endorsed (Dec) December 1755. Examination of Francis Beaujour a French Deserter
in Sir G: Hardy's Letter of Jan.y 6th 1756.

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[proof]

The Derserter being asked when he came from Crown Point answered the 12th. December, being ask'd what Number of Men there was in the Garrison, answered 50 Men in Garrison and about 50 Men round about. That the Inhabitants with five Ma-trosses brought 12 Cannon to Ticonderoga, six of them were 12 Pounders, and 6 six Pounders. The Question was then asked him, what Number of Men were at Tenonderoga, He Answered 100 Regulars from Old France 100 of the Canadian Troops, and 100 Inhabi-tants in all 300 including Officers, 40 Indians, 20 of them Iroquois the other Abonequoise, the Question was then asked him the Figure of the Fort, He Answered he could not tell the Figure, but that it was raised 5 Logs high and two aBreast at about six Foot dis-tance to be fill'd up with Earth. The Fort in Cir-cumference was about as large as this which is 91 Rods. That one of the Barracks the Wood Work was finish'd, but the Weather being so cold they could not build the Chimneys, another was rais'd. A Guard of 20 Regular and 50 Inhabitants slept within the Fort, the rest in Huts without. Being asked what Quantity of Provisions there was in Crown Point, An-swered about 3 Months at the Rate they live now, which is at half Allowance of Bread and Stinking

Fuse, nor any other Article but the two former in the Fort. Being asked where the Regulars were that came over with Baron Dieskau, answered that they were quartered at the several Forts, some at Montreal, St Johns & he farther says, that there is at Fort Du Quesne 500 of the Colony Troops and that at Niagara he believes only sufficient to keep the Garrison, And being asked what Cannon was mounted at Tenonderoga, Answered four 12 Pounders & four 6 Pounders towards the Lake. Being asked the Reason of His Deserting, Answered his Duty was so hard and Allowances so short that he could tarry no longer with them He / farther says that Capt. Lousang Commands at Crown Point and Monsieur Leacon [p. 260] at Tenonderoga, they have an Engineer, nine Officers, and no Priest: That they have but one Mortar in all Canada which is at Quebec, and have but Eight Large Battoes, at Tenonderoga.

Fort William Henry Dec.r 26th. 1755

A true Copy Examined by.

Benj.a Barons
Secretary.

Endorsed 26 December 1755 / Examination of a French / Deserter.

in Sir Wm. Hardy's Letter of Jan.y 6th. / 1756

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

[p.261]

On the 19th Instant I set out by Orders with three Men to make discoverys of the French and the Situation of their Fort at Tiganderago we Pad-dled in a Battoe about 15 Miles down the Lake and saw a fire on an Island, then we turned our Course and Landed our Battoe on the West side of the Lake by the Great Mountain and Lodged there that Night; the 20th day we Travelled by Land towards Tiondarago about 20 Miles and Camped in a Pleasant Place between two Moun-tains nothing remarkable happened this Day; the 21st we went on our Course towards Tionderago and about 12 of the Clock we came in plain sight of the French Fort; where we discovered their Men busy at Work all of them excepting the Guards some were Sawing Boards others Shaving Clapboards, some of them were at Work finishing their Bar-racks some drawing Stones with Horses and others were Exercising themselves, Shooting at Marks with the Indians there; There are two large Barracks in said Fort and some small Houses and several on the outside of the Fort and Men living in some of them; on the North West Bastion, were mounted two Cannon; Two laid on Wheels by the Gate and four or five pointing towards the Lake, on the East

and South East part of the Fort I tryed to Numb-
-ber their Men but could not do it they were go-
-ing about their Secular affairs so busy but my
Judgement was that there were about 500, in the
Evening we advanced nearer the Fort and way
laid a Road in order to take a Prisoner or get
a Scalp the said Road led towards Lake George,
about half an Hour after we set our Ambush,
there came ten Men by us within 8 Rods, but we
were so weak we durst not fire on them and
so let them pass, a few Minutes after there came
a Company of Indians, over from the East side of
the Lake on the Ice loaded with Venison & Skins
just about Sunset there went 5 Men with a Horse
& Cart for a Load of Wood to the Northside of
the Fort and went beyond the Clear Land into
the Woods then we left our Ambush in order to
fall upon said five, but before we could get near
enough to them they had got their Wood and were
returning to the Fort so we sat down till it was
quite dark intending to wait till the Morning &
try them again but it was so cold we could not
sit still, and were oblidg'd to keep moving and
went softly down to one of their Huts [p.565] which they
had left and went into it for a shelter from the
cold, and about break of Day next Morning the

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Snow fell so fast that we were oblidged to retreat and travell'd homewards that day about 25 Miles and Camped yet lay in fear of a pursuit and by Break of day next Morning set out homewards and within about two Miles of our Battoe we came upon a Flock of Deer and Kill'd two of them & with the utmost Expedition dress'd them and made to our Battoe and Launched it ready to set home-wards and dugg up our Bottle which we had hid with about one Quart of Rum in it which revived our Spirits greatly then set home with good Courage and about 2 of the Clock in the Morning Arrived at Fort William Henry in a good time to hold Christmas.

This is the Chief I can say about the Forces and Situation of Tiondarago and a true Journal the 24th. Decr 1755. /By Sir

Your humble Servant

Robt. Rodgers

To Coll: Bernsley Glazier

A true Copy Examined by

Benja. Barons
Secretary.

Endorsed 24 December 1755 - /Report of Capt. Rogers (Sic)
Intelligence of a Scouting Party.
in Sir Cb: Hardy's Letter of Jany. 6th 1756.

C.O. 5:47

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C05 1 17

December the 10th. in the Evening. I took the Comand of Eight Men in a Battoe to view the French Forces at Tienderoga, proceeded down the Lake about 20 Mile that Night, then Camp'd untill the 11th. in the Evening on an Island, then set out & went down about 15 Mile farther & landed & haul'd up the Battoe and lay there till the morning of the 12th. day then left 6 Men with the Battoe and march'd with the other two in order to take a view of the Fort & their Incampmt. March'd to the Top of a large Hill to the East. of the Fort about three quarters of a Mile distance in plain Sight there I saw four Buildings in the Fort appearing to me to be built for Barracks or Store Houses, one of which was not cover'd, only the Frame up, without the Fort there appear'd there to be 21 Small Houses cover'd with Boards or long Shingles. I saw Men Sawing of Boards & heard some at Work in the Woods cutting Timber & others at Work in the Fort. By the Number of People I saw about the Fort, the smoaks of the small Houses & the Noise of the people at Work, I cannot judge there is above 400 Men there - and saw no signs of any Men lying at the Place where they used to keep there advance Party -

The 13th. return'd to the Battoe where I found

C.O. 5:17

REPRODUCED FROM THE ORIGINAL IN THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

the Party I left well, set out & came up the Lake about 18 Mile there stopt & refresh'd ourselves that Night then set out in the Morning and arriv'd safe to Fort William Henry. December 15th 1755. —

Thomas Poor

A True Copy Examined by.
Benj.a Barons
Secretary.

[p. 264]

Endorsed 10 (sic) December 1755./ Lieut. Poor's report from/ Tionderoga
In Sir C. Hardy's Letter of/ Jan.y 6th: 1756

[p. 268]

Fort George New York 10th Jan.y 1756.

Sir

Inclosed is a report made to me by one of the Judges, who with other Justices of Oyer and Ter.-miner Tryed one James Smith McBride a Soldier in the Regiment belonging to the Province of New Jersey, for the Murder of one Isaac Winter another Soldier of the same Regiment, And it appearing by several Circumstances, to the Bench, that the Prisoner was an Object of Mercy, notwithstanding the Verdict of the Jury, I have thought it adviseable to lay the same before you together with a Copy of a Repreive I have granted to him till his Majestys Pleasure shall be known, and beg you will please to Recommend the said James Smith McBride as an Object of his Majestys Royal Mercy.

His Majestys Ship Nightingale proceeding to England with Major General Shirleys Dispatches to his Majestys Ministers, I judged a favourable Opper.-tunity to send the French General to Europe, if his state of Health would have permitted him to have undertaken the Voyage; his Wounds are something better, but not well enough for his leaving this Country, Monsieur Bernier his Aid de Camp I have given leave to go to England, at the Barons request, but have recommended him to Captain Diggs as a

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Prisoner, and judge it proper to acquaint you that I have reason to think him an Artfull cunning Fel. -low, and I should presume has made Observations while in Canada, and in the Rout from thence to this Province when he was taken Prisoner at the Bat. -tle on the 8th. of September last, that may be very
(p. 2nd) usefull, should he have it in / his Power to Commu. -nicate them to the French Ministry, to prevent this as much as lay in my power, I have not allowed him the liberty of this City, notwithstanding many requests made to me by the Baron, that he might have the liberty of an Officer on Parole, which I am perswaded he would have made use of, only to have conveyed any Intelligence to Canada could he have met with any Body to have assisted him, which a proper reward might have furnished.

I have the Honour to be

Sir

Your most Obedient

and Humble Servant

Chas. Hardy

[autograph]

The Right Hon.ble Sir Thomas Robinson.

[p. 3rd] Endorsed New York Jan.y 10th. 1756. / Sir Chas. Hardy / Rd March 11th.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, L

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

[p.4b]

May it please Your Excellency

On the 11th of Novemb.r last, was tryed be.-fore me, and three other Justices of Oyer & Terminer & General Goal Delivery one James Smith McBride for the Murder of Isaac Winter on the 25th Day of June last.

It appeared in Evidence, that both the Pris.-oner and the Deceased, were enlisted Soldiers in the New Jersey Regiment of the Provincial Forces under the command of Col.l Peter Schuyler, then encamped at Schonectady (sic) in that Country.

That the Prisoner was employed in the Na.-ture of an Armourer to clean the Guns of the Sol.-diery; 'twas said he did not lie in the Camp, but came thither that Morning about 9 o'Clock, & took a View round the Tent, where the Deceased was sitting with some other Person stripping of Tobacco; immediate.-ly after which the Witness saw the Prisoner go to the next Tent, & take up a Musquet belonging to a Soldier who had been treating with the Prisoner about cleaning it, but they could not agree about the Price, that the Lock went stiff, & the Soldier wanted to have it rectified. That the Prisoner upon taking up the Musquet, turned towards the Tent where the deceased was, (but the Witness could not be possitive that the Prisoner put the But (sic) End of the Musquet to his Shoulder) & pointing the Gun towards it (as the Witness

termed it) cock'd it & discharged it, & shot the De-
-ceased on the right side of the Belly a little above
the Hip, whereupon the Deceased cried out Lord have
mercy upon me I am gone! & was found lying up-
-on the Ground & his Guts ready to come out where
the Bullet entered: Upon this the Prisoner was seized
not attempting to escape, & the Deceased carried into
a House, & the Prisoner asked him whether he for-
-gave him, to which the Deceased answered, he did,
if he did not do it on Purpose, to which the Pris-
-oner replied he did not.

It appeared there had been a Quarrell be-
[illegible]
-tween /the Deceased & the Prisoner, some Time before;
& that two Persons in the Room where the Deceased
lay languishing, for four or five Hours before he died,
but at some Distance from the Bed (& as they thought
out of his Hearing) were talking of this Misfortune, &
what could have occasioned it, They said between themselves,
that they heard there had been a Quarrell between
them, & that the Prisoner had threatned the Deceas-
-ed's Life, but the Deceased overhearing them, replied;
no, 'twas no such Thing, That there had been a Quar-
-rell but 'twas made up.

On the Behalf of the Prisoner there were two
Witnesses which said:

That they saw him with the Musquet in his

hands that the But End of it was against his left Side when it went off.

The Captain in whose Company the Prisoner was inlisted, being asked as to his Character & Behaviour as far as he knew of him, said he had not misbehaved while with him.

There was an Observation made by the Prisoner himself in his Defence, which was thought worthy of some Weight in the Cass. "That it could "scarce be thought he did it wilfully in the Face of "a Camp of four or five hundred Men where there "could be no Possibility for his escaping".

It was my Lott Ld to sum up & remark upon the Evidence, and the Jury were charged to weigh well the Evidence for the King and the Prisoner, If they judged from the Evidence that the Fact was done wilfully, they would find him guilty of the Indictment, but if they found that the firing of the Gun was by Accident the Prisoner not knowing it was charged (& no such Evidence was given that he did & that it was not wilfully designed by the Prisoner against the Deceased, they should acquit him of the Murder.

The Jury withdrew & in half an Hour's Time brought in their Verdict Guilty, & the Prisoner was under Sentence of Death (& a Rule for his Execution [p.47] on the Wednesday following, which was afterwards

respited by another Rule to Wednesday the 4th day of January next.

There were three Justices upon the Bench with me, & We all expected the Prisoner would have been acquitted from the Nature of the Evidence, & all (excepting one of the other three Justices) were dissatis-fied, & joined with me in Opinion that 'twas proper for me to recommend the Prisoner to Mercy. And upon the whole I beg leave to recommend him to your Excell.y as an Object for Mercy in my Opinion.

Which is nevertheless humbly submitted

Dan.l Horsmanden

December 26th: 1755./

New York A true Copy Exam.d by

Lyw Banyar D.Secry

[p.249]

Endorsed 26th. Decemr. 1755 /Report of the Case of James/ Smith & McBride.—

in Sir C: Hardy's Letter of /Jan.y 10th: 1756.—

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[p.278]

(L s) By his Excellency Sir Charles Hardy Knight Captain General and Governor in chief in and over the Province of New York and the Territories depending thereon in America and Vice Admiral of the same.

To Abraham Yates Esqr. High Sheriff of the City and County of Albany, and to all Officers and Others whom these Presents may concern, Greeting:

Whereas, at a Court of Oyer and Terminer and General Goal Delivery, held in and for the City and County of Albany, on the eleventh Day of November last; one James Smith Mc. Bride was convicted of the Murder of one Isaac Winter, for which he is now under Sentence of Death, in the Custody of you the said Abraham Yates. And Whereas, by the Report of Daniel Horsmanden Esqr: third Justice of the Supreme Court of Judicature of this Province, who sat on the Trial of the said James Smith Mc. Bride, sundry matters are represented in favour of the said James Smith Mc. Bride, who is thereupon recommended for Mercy; But inasmuch as no Pardon can issue in Cases of Murder without his Majesty's express Direction: I have therefore thought fit to reprieve and I do hereby reprieve the aforesaid James [p.279]

Smith Mc Bride, until his Majesty's Pleasure be known concerning him: And you are hereby commanded to stay Execution accordingly. For which this shall be to you and every of you a sufficient Warrant.

Given under my Hand and Seal at Arms at Fort George in the City of New York the twenty seventh Day of December 1755 in the twenty ninth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith and so forth.

Cha.s Hardy

By his Excellency's command
Gw.o Banyar D Sec.ry

A true Copy Exam.d By
Gw.o Banyar Dsecry

[p.276]

Endorsed 27.th Decem.r 1755 / Reprieve of James Smith / Mc. Bride. —
in S.r C.s Hardy's Letter of / Jan.y 10.th 1756.

[illegible]

[p.277]

Plymouth March
13th 1756.

Sir

I have just received the honour of your Letter of the 10th Instant inclosing a Copy of Mr. Lyle's certificate concerning Bernard Goudier & Joseph Le Blanc, & acquainting me with His Majesty's Pleasure concerning that part of the French Inhabitants of Nova Scotia whom Governor Lawrence has sent to South Carolina; I shall upon my arrival in the Province according to His Majesty's Command, immediately take the most effectual means to [p.278] prevent any more of them from coming to England & am with the utmost respect,

Sir

Your most Obedient
& most humble Servant
William Henry Lyttelton

Right Honble Henry Fox.

[p.280]

Endorsed Plymouth March 13th/1756./Govr. Lyttelton/
Ry 15th by Shepherd.

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[p.293]

Fort George New York 22d. Feb.y 1756.

Sir

I have the honor of your Letter of the 14th. November, and beg leave to offer my Congratula-tions on your Advancement to the Office of one of his Majesty's Principal Secretarys of State, and to assure you, I shall punctually transmit to you everything that offers from this Government, and all informations of the motions of the French I shall from time to time receive.

I have now the honor to Inclose you a Copy of the Resolves of the Assembly of this Pro-vince, upon my Message to them of the 24th. of January, in consequence of a Council of Warr held in this City by Major General Shirley; Their readi-ness in making Provision for the Number of Men assigned this Province by that Council, for another Attempt on the French Fort at Crown point, in con-junction with the other Colonys, I trust will fully testify their Zeal, in vigorously pursuing Measures for defending his Majesty's just Rights and Domin-ions on this Continent and for removing the French from their Encroachments. These Resolves I dispatch'd the 30th. January by Express to General Shirley, and the Eastern Governments, and those to the Westward, but have not yet received an account that their

Assemblys / have taken any Resolutions for providing their Quotas.

I likewise Inclose you the last Information I received of the Motions of the French, by two Peisoners taken by a Scouting Party from Fort William Henry, and I think we have no reason to doubt of the Preparations making in Canada, for the defending the Fort at Crown point, and the Pass of Tionderoga, or the attacking our Fort at Lake George, and the Great Carrying place on Hudsons River, if we have not a sufficient Force there to Maintain and de-fend them.

Inclosed is a report to me of the Cheif Jus-tice, and Justices of his Majestys Supreme Court, on the Tryal and Conviction of one James Wilkes of this City for the Murder of one John Christie; The Error Imbibed and Beleived among the common People as mentioned in the report, was very gen-eral, and brought this poor unhappy Man to his present State, but as the Conviction has removed this so general opinion, and will I hope serve as an Example for the future, I beg leave to lay the report before you, together with a Copy of a Repreive I have granted him till his Majesty's Plea-sure shall be known, I was enduced to shew this Mercy, from the advice of his Majesty's Council,

and beg leave to add to it, the Universal Prayer of the City; I must therefore pray you will permit me to recommend this John Wilkes as an Object of his Majestys Royal Mercy.

I have the Honour to be

Sir.

Your most Obedient

and most Humble Servant.

Chas. Hardy

[Endorsed]

The Right Honble Henry Fox

[page]

Endorsed New York Febry 22d. 1756. /Sir Chas. Hardy/

By March 25th.

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[p.303]

Copy of a Letter from Lieut. Coll. Burton and Capt. Bradstreet to his Excellency Majr. Gen.-eral Shirley dated at Albany January 23d. 1756—

Sir

We think it our duty to dispatch a Mes.-senger to your Excellency to inform you we have just examined two Frenchmen taken prisoners seven days since by a Party from Lake George between Crown Point and Tenenderoque, who say, a few days before they were taken two Men came by land from Montreal and reported that they saw two hundred Men Mustered who were ready to follow them in two days and that thirty Battoes with Pork, Flour and ten Men in each was actually set out from St. John's and would if the weather permitted be there in three days the whole of which was intended for the defence and security of the abovementioned places.

And they further said, that five thou.-sand Men (exclusive of Indians which was very Considerable) were actually fixed upon and would certainly set out to join them in seven Weeks, and were intended for to attack our Forts or defend theirs as occasion might require; and that upon the whole all

people at Canada were employ'd in making Mil-
-itary preparations.

Robt. Burton, Jnº. Bradstreet

A true Copy Examined by
Benj.º Barons
Secretary.

[p. 304]
Endorsed Albany 23 Jan.y. 1756 / Extract of a Let-
-ter from / Lol.º Burton & Bradstreet
In Sr. G: Hardy's Letter of / Feb.y 22d. 1756.

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Assembly Chamber the 28th January 1756. PM.

The House Resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House upon his Excellencys Message of the 24th Instant after sometime spent therein Mr. Speaker resum-ed the Chair and Mr. Thomas reported the Resolutions of the Committee thereon, which he read in his Place and afterwards delivered in at the Table, where the same were again Read and are as follow viz.t

Resolved

That it is the opinion of this Committee, that for Raising, Paying and Subsisting One Thousand effec-tive Men, Officers included, and including the Forces in the Pay of this Colony now in Garison at Fort Edward, and Fort William Henry, to act in Conjunction with the Neighbouring Colonys in making an Attempt upon the French Fort at Crown Point in the ensuing Spring, there be allowed the Sum of Forty Thousand Pounds.

Resolved

That it is the opinion of this Committee that the said Sum of Forty Thousand Pounds be raised by a Tax on all Real and Personal Estates within this Colony in four Years to Commence from the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty two Inclusive, the Committee Con-ceiveing it altogether impracticable to Raise it sooner by Reason of the great Burthen of Taxes now lying on this Colony and extending to the Year One Thousand Seven

Hundred and Sixty One inclusive, Amounting to Seventy Eight Thousand Pounds.

[p. 208]
Resolved.

That it is the opinion of this Committee that for making immediate payment for the Services of the aforesaid Enterprize against Crown point, Bills of Credit to the Amount of the aforesaid Sum of Forty Thousand Pounds be Emitted on the Credit of the aforesaid Tax to be Sunk and Cancelled in four Years Commenceing from the Year One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty Two inclusive.

And the said Resolutions being Read a Second time.

Resolved

That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolutions.

Ordered.

That Mr. Cornell and Mr. Thomas wait on his Excellency with the foregoing Resolutions.

By order of the General Assembly
Abrm. Lott Junr. Clk

A true Copy Examined by
Benja. Barons
Secretary.

Endorsed New York 28 Jany. 1756 - / Resolves of the Gen- / eral / Assembly
In Sr. Cb: Hardy's Letter of / Febry 22d: 1756.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

[p.291]

Georgia, 1st of July 1755.

Sir

Yesterday I had the Honour to receive the Duplicates of two Letters from you dated the 23d. of January last, together with the Printed Coppies of the Mutiny Bill; the original Letters, and the Letter you mention of the 31st of December, never came to my hand. In answer to the Directions you are pleased to give me concerning this Colony's contributing towards the Augmentation of the Regiments in British Pay employ'd in North America, I beg leave to acquaint you that Georgia is so very thinly Inhabited that there is not the least probability of my being able in any degree to effect it; this I had the Honour to represent to you before, by my Letter of the 4th of Febr.y in answer to yours of the 26th. of October, which I communicated to the Generall Assembly the very day I received it; and sent you their answer, that they were not in a condition to furnish either Men or Money. But if any Men could have been procured here, no Merchant would Advance Money to defray the Charge of Levying them, unless I [p.292] knew who to draw Bills upon for the same, which has never been signified to me by anybody, nor in what part of North America the Common Fund, you are pleased to mention, is Deposited; nor anything

C.O: 5: 17

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LI

relating to it, neither have I yet received a line from General Braddock, or anybody belonging to the Army, except one Letter from Sir John St. Clair, dated the 14th of January last, which was only to desire me to send him a Map of this Province.

The French are indefatigably industrious to draw the Indians, in our neighbourhood and friend-ship, over to Their Interest; of which I have frequent accounts from our Traders in the Indian Country the French not only give them considerable Presents, but pretend that they can afford to sell them Goods much cheaper than the English, and accordingly they do sell them Goods for half the value, their Govern-ment giving Credit to their Traders for the Dif-ference: and this Methode (Sic) has had a great ef-fect upon the Indians, who are now very much inclined to Abandon us; and if the Presents which I have promised them, and which the Agent for Georgia told me in London that I might expect to receive soon after my arrival here, does not come before Au-gust is out, it is to be feard that, by the in-
[p.209]
stigation of the French the Neighbouring Indians will make War against this Colony, which is in the most Defenceless state that can be immagined hav-ing neither Cannon Small-arms Ammunition nor any kind of Fortification; which I have given notice

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of to General Braddock, and which I had the Honour to represent to you by a Memorial dated the 5th of December last, at the same time I represented it to the Board of Trade & Plantations and Duplicates of both were transmitted by the next conveyance.

I am, with Great Respect,

Sir

Your Most Obedient and

Most Humble Servant

J Reynolds

To the Right Honble Sir Thomas Robinson, one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

[p.284]

Endorsed Georgia July 1st 1755. / Govr Reynolds. /

Ry March 24th 1756

C.O.5: 17

[p.296]

Georgia, the 18th: Decemr. 1755.

Sir

In obedience to your Commands of the 28th. of August, I take the first opportunity to assure you that no Motions have been made in His Majesty's Province of Georgia, since it has been under my Government, that could give the least grounds of apprehensions to the Spaniards, of any Design against them: you are pleased to command me to endeavour to discover the Cause and Authors of such a Report, accordingly I have made the strictest enquiry, but have not been able to discover anything, with certainty, but I am inclined to think, that if any of the Spanish Governors did ever receive any such false information, it must have proceeded from some of the many Vagrants, and Outlaws, that come from the back parts of Virginia, and passing through the back parts of Carolina and Georgia, sometimes go, even to St. Augustine, where they may have invented these Lies, to curry favour.

As I have never had any Orders to take any steps that might be offensive to the Court of Spain, I have carefully avoided giving the Spaniards the [p.296] least foundation for any Jealousy.

[I am]

I am, with the Greatest Respect,
Sir

Your Most Obedient
and Most Humble Servant
J Reynolds.

Right Hon^ble Sir Thomas Robinson.

[p. 288]

Endorsed Georgia Dec^r 18^th 1755. / Gov^r Reynolds /
Ry March 24^th.

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION

[p. 2v]

Sir,

The 6: Current I recieved via N York & the Halifax Packet the Honour of yours of the 14: of Nov.r last informing me that His Majesty had been graciously pleased to honour you with the Office of His Principal Secretary of State for the Southern Department, I shall therefore, for the future address my Letters to you to be laid before the King I congratulate you, Sir, upon this Mark of His Majesty's high Esteem & Regard, and am with great Respect,

Honourable Sir,

Your most dedient &
most humble Servant
[autograph] J Belcher

Eliz.a Town (New Jersey)
Feb.r 11: 1756 —

3

[p. 2pg]

Endorsed New Jersey Feb.y 11.th / 1756 / Gov.r Belcher. /
Ry March 25.th

(A.31)

Annapolis. January the 6th. 1756—

Right Honourable

I do myself the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of Your Letters dated the 26th of July & 28th of August. The Contents of the first have agreeably to Your Order been communicated to the People of this Province; & in Compliance with General Shirley's Desire I was assisting at a Council of War at New York when I received the other. how Affairs are situated in the Northern Parts of His Majesty's Dominions on this Continent the General himself has I doubt not informed You; in this Province nothing extraordinary has happened, neither have Indians Parties made such Incursions into or destroyed the Inhabitants of this as they have those of the two Neighbouring Provinces during the Winter. Since the Delaware & Shawnese Indians who resided some time in Pensilvania, have (p.200) declared in favour of the French & taken up Arms against Us, it has been impossible to get any Intelligence of the Motions or Proceedings of the French on the Ohio; the last Account thence was brought by an Indian some time ago who reported that the Garrison at that time at Fort Du Quesne consisted of about one thousand Men, & that many Indians & some Regular Troops who were

at the Action of the Monongahela had been
a few Days after sent off to the Northward.

I remain with the greatest Respect

Right Honourable Sir

Your most humble

& most obedient Servant

[autograph] Hor: Sharpe

Right Honble Sir Thos Robinson

[p. 222]

Endorsed Maryland Jany 6th 1756 / Depy Govr Sharpe /

Ry April 7th

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, LI... OF CONGRESS

Duplicate/

Sir./

I am honourd with yours of November the fourteenth, notifying His Majesty's apointment of You, to the Office of Secretary of State for the Southern Department, on which you will permit me to Con-gratulate You and the Publick.

I have in my several Letters to Sr. Thomas Robinson given the best Accounts I could of the State and Condition of this Province, and of the many disputes and difficulties I had to strugle with in the Execution of the Kings Commands. However, at last I had the good Fortune to prevail with the Assembly to grant Fifty five thousand Pounds, an Addition to the Proprietaries Gift of Five thousand for the Defence of the Province, the whole was lodged in the Hands of a set of Commissioners, ap-pointed by the Act, to be disposed of in such man-ner as I should approve. Had this grant been made in time or indeed one of half the Sum the Mischiefs done by the Indians in this Province might have been in great Measure, if not totally prevented. However as soon as the Hands of the Government were thus strengthened, It was judged Proper to form a Line of small Forts and Block-Houses along the Frontier, so as to include within it all the Settlements, and to

Garrison these with Companies in the Pay of the Province. This was immediately set about and as soon as I returned from New York where I was obliged to Assist General Shirley at a Council of War, I went to the Frontiers to hasten that necessary Work, and to put the People in as good a Posture of Defence as the Nature of this Quaker Government would admit of, and I have the Honour to acquaint You, that those Forts and Block Houses are mostly finished, and a Thousand Men taken into the Pay of the Province who are divided into Companys and Posted in those Forts with orders by Detachments to Range and Scour the Woods from time to time, and from one Fort to another [p. 228] / and tho' the Indian manner of making War is such, that it is almost impossible to prevent their surprising and cutting off some of the Inhabitants, who in this Province are Settled in single Plantations at a distance from each other, yet they will not incline to come far within the line of Block Houses as they may be intercepted and cut off in their return - Were the Men raised in the Pay of the Province under Military Discipline and the People in general formed into a Regular Militia I should think the Province in a tolerable posture of Defence. But I have no reason at present to expect either from my Assembly, - tho' I am doing all in my power to obtain both.

At the opening of the present Sessions on the third Instant I laid before the House the Plan of Operations concerted at the Council at New York and strongly pressed them to join in the Measures proposed, but have as yet had no Answer from them which inclines me to think that they have no intention to take part in those operations.

I have the Honour to send you a Map of the Country West of the Susquahannah with the Forts laid down upon it that are already Erected there and by the next Packet hope to be able to transmit me of the Country between Susquahannah and Delaware with the Situation of the several Forts and Block Houses erected between those Rivers.

And am Sir

Your most Obed^{t}

Humble Servt

Robt. H: Morris.

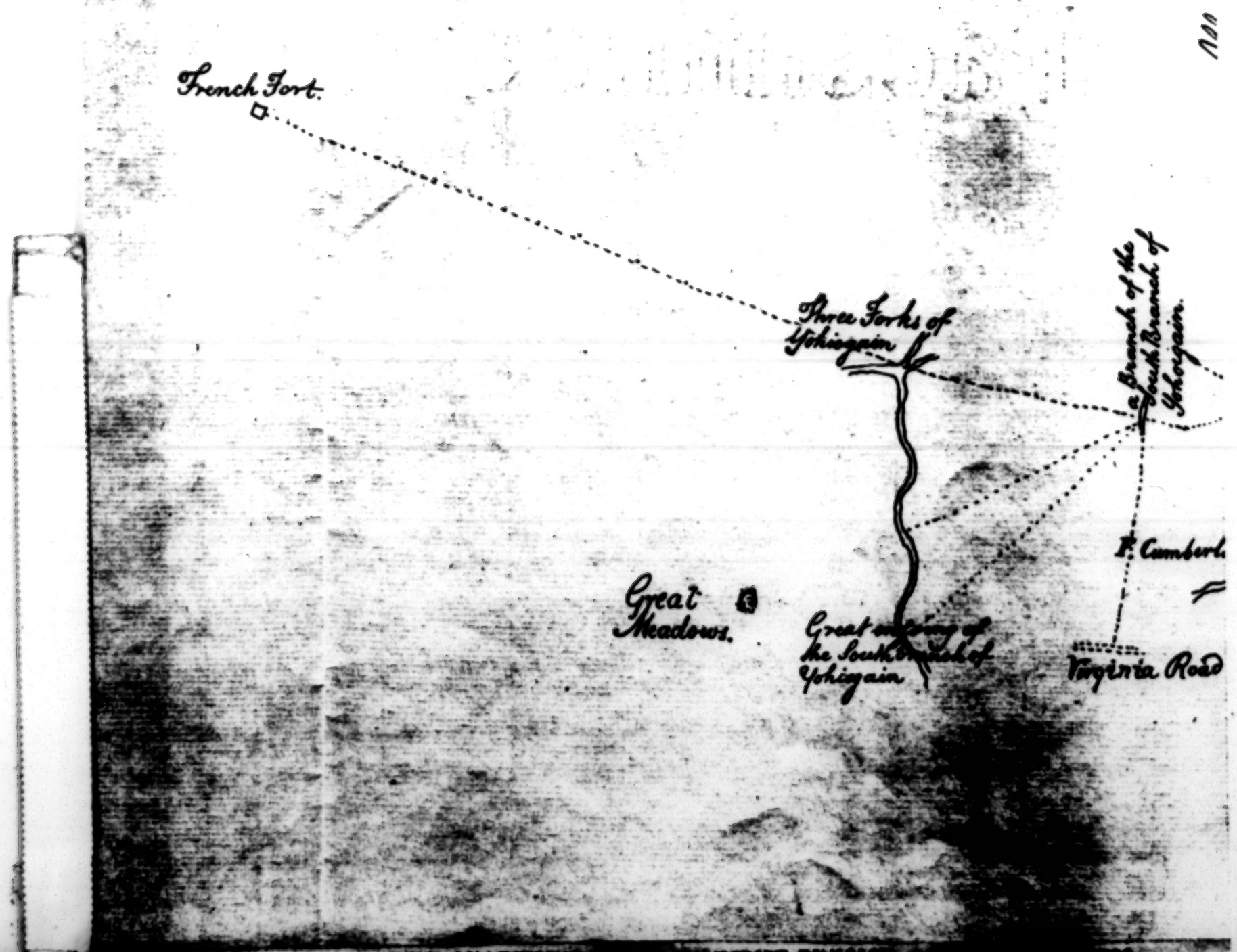
Philadelphia
23rd February 1756

Mr. Fox

[p. 226]

Endorsed Pensylvania Feb^{ry} 23^{d}: 1756. / Dep^{ty} Gov^{r} Morris / ffy April 19th:

A Map of Part of the Province of Pennsylvania West of the River Susquehannah


French Fort.
Three Forks of Yohiogain
a Branch of the South Branch of Yohiogain.
Great Meadows.
Great ... of the South ... of Yohiogain
Virginia Road

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Big Island

Lecamick

Lywascak

Aunay Creek

Opeecheecheelin

Occoquan

Buffelloe Cr.

John Powers Creek

Middle Creek

Mahatoga

Pomfretlas

Little Juniata

Shawnee Cr.

Shawnee Colliars

Rays Town Branch

Ft. Granville.

Ft. Shirley.

Ft. Lyttleton

Great Cove

Little Cove.

Sideling Hill

Warriors Path from Potomac

Isaac Colliars

Potomac River

Willis Creek

Cacapehon Creek

Mc Donalls Mill.

Sherrmans Valley.

Blue Mountains

Conodogwain

Thippensburg

Scale of Eng

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Conodoguinet Cr.
East Branch.
Yellow Breeches Cr.
Harris's
Carlisle.
Creek.
Susquehanna
River
Wind Creek.
Mussemay Cr.
Miles

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[p.331]

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen.

As the Season for Military preparations is far advanced, I judged it necessary, as soon as the Business I was engaged in with the Commissioners upon the Frontier would admit of my attendance in Town, to call you together to consider of the Plan of Operations concerted in the late Council of War at New York, for the Security of His Majesties Dominions on this Continent. I have directed the Secretary to lay the Plan before You, but as it is in its nature Secret and the execution of it may, in some measure, be frustrated, if it should be divulged, I must recommend it to You not to suffer any part of it to transpire.

The many Incroachments made by the French upon His Majestys Territories, Contrary to the faith of Treaties, and in the Times of Profound peace, the measures they have taken to secure the Possession of the Countries they have seized, and to disturb Us in the enjoyment of the narrow Limits which they would prescribe (sic) to Us, sufficiently shew what we are to expect from those restless and ambitious People, if We do not, by a united, vigorous and speedy exertion of our strength, dislodge them from those Encroachments, and confine them within their own just bounds: and this I am persuaded

you will find the best and most effectual way of securing the Inhabitants of this and the other Colonies against the cruel Insults of them and their savage Allies. — I must therefore recommend it to You to grant such supplys as may enable me to furnish what is expected from this Province towards the general service. As you are sensible our success will very much depend upon our being early in Motion I make no doubt you'll use the greatest dilligence and dispatch in whatever measures your Zeal for the Publick cause may induce You to take upon the present occasion. —

Since the last Session every thing has been done that the time would admit for the defence and security of the Province, and I have the satisfaction to tell You that a Chain of Forts and Block-houses extending from the River Delaware along the Kittatinny Mountains to the Maryland Line is now almost compleat. They are placed at convenient Distances from each other and at the most important Passes through the Mountains and are Garrisoned with Companys and Detachments all in the Pay of the Province from Seventy five to twenty Men each, according to the situation and Importance of the Places; and if the Officers and [4 332]
Men posted there will /do their Duty. I believe they will prove a sufficient protection to the Inhabitants against

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such parties as have hitherto appeared upon our Borders.

I have also directed the Secretary to lay before You the Minutes of the several Conferences held with the Indians at Carlisle and other Papers relating to Indian affairs, together with a Letter lately received from Scarrooyady and Andrew Montour, who were sent by me on a Message from this Government to these Nations and to the Indians living on the Susquahannah, by which it appears that the Body of the Indians on that River are in the French Interest, and seem determined not to hearken to any thing the Six Nations may say to them in our Behalf. The Heads of these Nations have been convened by the timely care and orders of General Shirley, and are now met in Council to treat on these and other matters. I am informed they greatly disapprove of the conduct of the Delawares and Shawanese and seem inclinable to chastise them for taking up the Hatchet against Us, and I am in great hopes that the Warmth with which General Shirley hath recommended this matter to them may induce them to act vigorously for Us on this Occasion.

Robt. H: Morris

Philadelphia / February 4th 1756.

[p. 334]

Endorsed Copy. / Message from the Governr. / to the Assembly. / 4th Feby. 1756 – / in Depy Govr. Morris's Letter of Fe.y 4./23d. 1756.

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[p. 349]

Boston Feb. 14. 1756 50

Sir

Altho the Province had reason to hope that they might have Grants of Parliament pending in Gt Britain, yet they could not agree upon ye Person or Measures to Negotiate Receive & Remitt the Same. I took therefore the Liberty to apply to you on behalf of ye Province that when it should please the Parliament at his Majestys Recommendation to make such Grants to the Province, They might be remitted by ye Crown's Contractors in ye same manner as his Majesty was pleas'd to direct ye Grant of 1755 to be remitted in 1756, with this difference that instead of being consign'd to ye Governor it might be consign'd to ye Treasurer or Receiver General of ye Province for the time being. I laied before ye General Court the Steps I had taken by my application to you. The Council & House of Representatives still remain'd under the same Disagreement as to the Appointment of a Person to transact this Affair as appears by their Vote of Jan 6 1759 enclosed, but on Feb. 9. 1759 The House Originated the Vote enclosed which having pass'd ye The (sic) Three Branches of ye Legislature is an Order of ye Genl Court. As this Vote is founded on ye Step I had already taken, I must humbly beg leave at their request to renew my Intercession,

Sir, to you on their Behalf, that if it should please
[f. 345] y^e^ Parliament to have made / such Grants as We are
under hopes of, and no other Way of its being re-
-mitted be directed. That you would intercede with his
Majesty for his faithfull Province that such Grant may
be remitted by y^e^ Crowns Contractors as y^e^ Grant of
1755 was remitted in 1756. Except that being (sic) con-
-sign'd to We as Governor it may be consign'd to
y^e^ Treasurer or Receiver Gen^l^ of y^e^ Province Massa-
-chusetts-bay for y^e^ time being. The Reason that I
take y^e^ Liberty humbly to propose this Alteration is,
that I think it for the honor of his Majesty's Ser-
-vice, that His Governor should not only stand clear
of all Money Concerns but even of all Suspicion in
y^e^ Eyes of y^e^ People of having y^e^ least connexion with Such.

I am with y^e^ most profound Respect

Sir

Yr most Obedient

& most Humble / Servant

T Pownall

To The Right Hon^ble^

W^m^ See^ry^ Pitt.

[p. 346]

Endorsed Boston Feb^y^ 14. 1759 (sic) / Gov^r^ Pownall / Rd 9^th^ May.

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[p. 307]

Williamsburg Virginia December 24th: 1755_

Right Honble

Inclosed You have Copy of my last Letter of the 24th: Novr: to which please be refered. The Neu-tral French that were sent here from Nova Scotia give a general Discontent to the People here, as they are bigotted Papists, lazy, & of a very conten-tious Behaviour; as we had very few Roman Catholicks here before these People arrived, makes the Subjects here very uneasy in regard to their Religious Principles; and are much alarmid for fear of debauching our Negroes; The Council agreed to main-tain them from the two Shilling p Hogshead Re-venue till March, but when that Period comes I dread what to do, for at present they are very lazy, indolent People; the Council desire me to write for leave to send them for Britain, or any other Place His Majesty will (sic) please to direct.

The Goods for a Present to the Catawbas & Cherokees are sent up James River, from thence to be conveyed in Waggons to their Nation, it amounts to £650 & the Commissioners will follow the Waggons some time next Month, which will be about the time they return from Hunting; the above is charged to the Money I was intrusted with from Home, for the two Shilling p Hogshead Revenue is near exhausted.

A Nation of Indians called the Shawnesse join'd the French & came into our back Settlements, robbed, & murdered a great many of our Inhabitants; I sent to the Cherokees with Account of this barbar-ous Treatment of these People, & desired they would take up the Hatchet against the French & Shawnesse, & send me some of their Warriors to assist us against these perfidious People; which they immediately did, by declaring War against the French & the Shawnesse; & propos'd, if I would join these Warriors (sent into our Back Country) with some of our People, they would march & attack them in their Towns; I ap-proved of the Scheme, & ordered three Companies of Rangers, & one Company of our Provincials to join them immediately, & gave the Command of this Ex-pedition to Majr. Andrew Lewis; a Person well ac-quainted with the Woods, & in good Esteem with our People, & I hope Success will attend: The Charges & Expences will run high, but if they succeed I fore-see great Advantages to His Majesty's Interest & for the Service of these Colonies, as it probably may reclaim some of our Indians that have joined the French, & I hope this Step will meet with Approbation.

[Sir, Agreeable to your Commands to me of the 5th of July 1754 I here enclose You an Account of my Disbursments & Supplies for the Expedition,

× see the 2nd Paper in this Volume (Ibid)

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charged to the Money & Credit I received from You by the above Letter; & as I have managed the whole with great Frugality, I hope to meet with Approba-tion, & that my Account will be, after examined, al-lowed & passed.

You will please observe the Ballance re-maining in my Hands /is £4878. 2. 1½ which is [p. 300] occasioned by the late General Braddock's Letter to me to provide a considerable Sum which he expected he would soon have occasion to call for - That Bal-lance shall be carried to the Credit of the subse-quent Account, there is now due & to be paid out of it, Salt for the Beeves supplied by Governor Dobbs by the Generals Order, Casks to pack it in, & sun-dry other Charges not yet come to my Hands; & the Expence of the Expedition against the Shawnesse will be considerable. I have Receipts & Vouchers for all my Disbursements which are very bulky, & for fear of Accidents I retain them; but the Originals or Copies shall be sent if you desire it.]

We are extremely backward in raising of Men; I granted Commissions & directed to raise 1000 Men, but the Officers have not yet been able to re-cruit half that number; Our People want a martial Spirit, & what to do for the next Campaign I know not; for our Militia Law restrains me from marching

them out of the Confines of this Goverment; & without Forces from Britain & good Officers, we shall, I fear, make a bad Figure against the Enemy; however I wait for His Majesty's Commands, & every Thing in my Power shall be done with alacrity & diligence.

I daily expect Letters from General Shirley with the Determination & Result of the Congress at New York, & what Plan of Operations they have fix'd on for the next Year's Campaign.

I beg Leave to assure You that I remain with great Deference & dutiful Respects —

Right Hon^ble^

Your most obedient humble Servant

[autograph] Rob^t^ Dinwiddie

Sir Thomas Robinson

[p. 2/2] Endorsed Virginia Dec^r^ 24^th^ 1756 (sic) / Lt. Gov^r^ Dinwiddie / Ry March 31^st^

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[p. 264]

Williamsburg Virginia Febr. 24th 1756

Right Honble

My last to You was the 29th of Decr. by way of New York, & a Duplicate of the same by a Vessell to Hull; I hope both have reachd You, as it contain'd an Account of my Disbursements on the Ohio Expedition.

I have sent two of the Council to the Cherokees and Catawbas, to confirm them in our Interest, and I sent a proper Present to those People; the Weather was so bad that the Commissioners did not proceed till the third of this Month.

The Cherokees that were sent into our frontiers, with 200 of our Rangers have been marchd some time against the Shawnesse. We remain here in a State of Uncertainty in regard to Peace or War; the Provincials of this Dominion, to the number of 600 are at Fort Cumberland and on our Frontiers, they must remain on the Defensive till I have Orders from Home; their Officers have my Orders to train their Men in the Indian Method of fighting, and they write me they prove very expert therein.

General Shirley writes me the Quota of Men from this (Colony) for the Expedition against Crown Point and Niagara is 1450, a Number I think not possible to be raised here, I wrote him so, with my Opinion;

[p. 265]

that if Pensylvania, Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina were directed to raise Men to go against Fort Du Quesne they may be able to do some Thing; if they could not take that Fort, they may make a Diversion, by preventing the Forces that are on the Ohio from marching to Niagara Vz. but I have not as yet received his Answer; but I am sorry to think it meerly impracticable to raise the number proposed from this Dominion; our People greatly want a martial Spirit, & all the Arguments I can use has no weight to rouse them to Activity in defence of their Lives and Fortunes.

I am very sorry to hear of some Misunder-standings and Disputes among the Commanding Officers to the Northward, it's ill timed to have any Quarrels but with the Publick Enemy; I hope to hear they are all reconciled.

I wait with Impatience to know whether Peace or War, and Orders for my future Conduct; every Thing in my Power for His Majesty's Service and the good of His Dominions on this Continent, shall be attended to with great assiduity and care; And I beg Leave to assure You that I am with due Respect

Right Honble / Your most obedt. hble Servant

[autograph] Robt. Dinwiddie

[p.350] Sir Thomas Robinson Va.

Endorsed Virginia Febry. 24th. 1756. / Lt. Govr. Dinwiddie / Ry April 26th

[p. 356]

Norwalk April 16th. 1756

Sir,

Having received your Letter of the 14th. Novem-ber acquainting this Government that on the resig-nation of Sir Thomas Robinson his Majesty has been pleased to confer on you the Office of his Principal Secretary of State for the Southern Department I am to signify to you that we shall according to your Di-rections address our Letters to you, and duly observe such Instructions & Orders as shall by you be trans--mitted from his Majesty to us for Our Guidance and Direction; and beg leave to request your kind and Friendly Offices for the Interest of this His Majesty's Co-ony whose Loyalty and Zeal for his Service they have given such Evident Demonstrations of; I have also received Sir Thomas Robinson's several Letters of the 26th. July 28th. August; one of the 3d. and two of the 11th. November last; and I am to acquaint You the General Assembly to whom I communicated those Letters have a most greatful Sense of his Majesty's Accept-ance of their Services in the Last Years Campaign and of the Marks of his Royal Favour and Regard which he has been graciously pleased to shew us on this Occasion; having by former Letters given a Gen-eral Representation of what this Colony hath Done in the King's Service to repel the Common Danger and

here in all the parts of the last years Opperations the Inhabitants of this Colony Eminently distinguished themselves; I begg Leave now to add .. That Generall Shirley Commander in Chief of all his Majestys
(p. 556) Forces / In North America called a Council of War in New York in December last consisting of Governors and Field Officers agreable to his Majestys Instructions to him, who gave their Opinion that an Expedition should be carryed on this Year against Crown Point, and that an Army of ten Thousand Men would be necessary for that Service; and as the Troops in the immediate Pay of the Crown were to be Employed in an Expedition for removing the Encroachments of the French on the Lake Ontario....

General Shirley proposed the Colonies should raise the ten Thousand Men to go against Crown Point and for that purpose made out a proportion for every Government in which he assigned to this the Number of one Thousand two hundred and fifty but intimated that if the Southern Governments failed raising the Number assigned them the Northern Colonies should augment their proportion; whereupon the Assembly of this Colony having received no Intelligence from the Southern Governments of their raising any Men for this Service; voted to augment their Number to twenty five hundred Men and recommended it to the other

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New England Governments and New York to add in the same proportion; that by these Governments which were Engaged in carrying on the Expedition last year against Crown Point the same Service should be undertaken the Currant year with Ten Thousand Men, whether these Governments Except Massachusets and Connecticut will raise the whole proportion is not certain .....

This Colony continuing it's Zeal and Resolution for his Majesty's Service and Seeing no prospect that This Army would be raised unless in and by these Northern Governments resolved to Exert itself to the utmost on this Important Occasion ..../By these Ser- [p.55?]
-vices for Our King and Country the Colony has brought upon itself a Debt the Discharge of which must greatly Distress the Inhabitants unless they receive some Seasonable Releife to Enable them to get thro' it, we have by Reason of the Scarcity of Money among us been necessitated not only to Emit Bills of Credit to the Amount of Sixty two Thousand Pounds Lawfull money all payable by taxes at Several periods within five Years but also in Order to raise and fix out the Twenty five Hundred Men in the present Expedition have been obliedged in addition to what could be raised by a large tax on the People to borrow of General Shirley ten Thousand Pounds Sterling who has also agreed to

furnish us with 2000 Stands of Arms out of those ten Thousand his Majesty has been graciously pleased to send to Boston all which Favours we acknowledge with the highest Gratitude.....

These parts of his Majesty's Services the Colony has undertaken and is now Engaged in with humble Reliance and Dependance on the Royal Favour for such Assistance as may Enable us to go thro' the Service having no Means but by further use of Our Credit to pay the Troops we have raised and being apprehensive to go into further Emission of Bills must Depreciate their Value and sink the Colony to that Degree that to pay off both principal and Interest must be attended with extream burdens on the People.....

The Government therefore humbly hope to be favoured with an Enabling Sum for the present without which it appears impracticable to pay the Troops raised for the Currant Year, and also to be reimbursed the Expences incurred in the common Service that we may be able to pay and Discharge the Bills of Public Credit Emitted on these important Occasions which by the Interest they carry are
[p. 109]
/continually increasing the Load on the Colony. for this Purpose the Government make their most humble Address and Petition to his Majesty which I have by

their Desire inclosed and am to Desire You to Lay it before the King and to request Your good Offices in Favour of it to render the same acceptable;

The Importance of these Affairs and the Necessity we are in of assistance in Order to carry on to Effect his Majesty's Intentions against the Common Enemy I perswade myself will be a Sufficient Excuse for this Importunity I shall only add that I am

Sir

Your most Obedient and
most humble Servant
autograph: Thos Fitch

The Right Honble Henry Fox &c

Endorsed Connecticut April 16th: 1756. / Govr: Fitch. /
Ry June 7th

REPRODUCED FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT DIVISION, [illegible]

[p. 359]

To the Kings most Excellent Majesty in Council

The Humble address and Petition of the Gov-
-ernor and Company of the Colony of Con-
-necticut in New England in America —

Most Gracious Sovereign,

We your Majesty's most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects the Governor and Company of your Colony of Connecticut humbly begg leave to render to your Majesty our unfeigned and greatful Acknowledgements for your Favourable acceptance of our Zeal and Services in the Defence and Protection of your Just Rights and Dominions in North America, for those marks of your Royal Favour and Regard which your Majesty has been pleased to condescend to shew and order to be signifyed to this Colony, and for those gracious En-
-couragements given for our Relief and Assistance un-
-der the Expences incurred in those important Services which have been so burdensome to the Government.

We also begg Leave to assure Your Ma-
-jesty that as in the last Year the Inhabitants of this Colony with great Spirit and Activity Exerted them-
-selves for removing the Encroachments of the French and in the Defence of the Country so they continue Steady and unshaken in their Zeal and Resolution still fur-
-ther Vigorously to Exert themselves to the utmost of their

Power and Strength therein.....

The Assembly of the Colony may it please Your Majesty has voted and agreed to raise two Thousand five hundred Men for a like Undertaking the ensuing Year to join the Forces of the Neighbouring Governments great part of which are raised and appear to be animated with Resolution to Effect the grand Design, the Necessary preparations for these purposes we are making with all possible Dispatch.....

[p 360] The Expences arisen and increasing in these Services have by Reason of the great Scarcity of Money necessitated the Government to make Use of Credit by Emitting Bills to the amount of Sixty two Thousand pounds Proclamation money payable with Interest at five per Cent at Several periods within five Year the Fund for which are Taxes laid on the Inhabitants who unless we are favoured with assistance in Ease of those Burdens must be greatly streightened....

We humbly begg Leave further to represent to your Majesty that we have undertaken so Considerable part of this Service under a Sense of the Necessity and Importance of it, and with humble Trust and Reliance on the Favourable Encouragements we have received of such Supplies in Money as may Enable us with Vigour to pursue the Design to Effect, such being the weak State of the Colony that besides what

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we can Collect by a Large Tax the Government is obliedged to borrow of the Commander in Chief of your Majesty's Forces in America Ten Thousand pounds Sterl. -ing in order to Defray the Expence for raising and furnishing the Twenty five hundred Men for the pres. -ent Expedition whose Wages we have no means of paying without further Emission of Bills which we are apprehensive may Cause a Depreciation of their Credit to the great Detriment of the Colony as well as Lay such Burdens on the People as may be very Distressing . . . . . .

We therefore begg Leave most humbly to im. -plore Your Majesty's Gracious Attention to our In. -supportable Burdens, and that you would be pleased to Extend Your Royal Favour and Bounty for Allevi. -ation thereof by granting such Supplies of Money as may be answerable to the Necessity of our present Cir. -cumstances, and that your Majesty would be graciously pleased to recommend to your Parliament the Reimbursment of the Residue of our Expence incurred and increasing in these Services the Account / Of which we begg Leave to be [p. 263] permitted hereafter to transmit . . . . . .

And for Your most Excellent Majesty Your Humble Petitioners as in Duty bound shall ever pray.

In the Name and behalf of the Governor and Company of the Colony of Connecticut

April 1756 autograph: Thos. Fitch Govr

[p. 362]

Endorsed Address & Petition of /the Govr. & Com-
-pany. of /Connecticut to the /King in Council./
in Govr. Fitch's Letter of /April 16th 1756

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[p.369]

Williamsburg Virginia Mar 20th 1756

Right Honble

Your two Letters of Novr last did not reach me till the 14th of this Month. Upon the resignation of Sir Thomas Robinson, I am heartily glad a Gentleman of your superior Knowledge & Understanding succeeds him; on which I humbly beg Leave to congratulate You.

The last Letter from Sir Thomas Robinson mentions his having presented to His Majesty the Address of Council & Assembly of this Dominion; & of their having voted 40,000 for the Expedition, & that I proposed compleating our Forces to 1000 Men, & given (sic) the Command of them to Colonel George Washington, which His Majesty was graciously pleas'd to approve. The Officers have been recruiting these five Months but have not enlisted six hundred; our People have not a martial Spirit, & I am much straitned what to do in raising the Quota propos'd from this Colony, for the Expedition against Crown Point and Niagara.

Our Assembly meets next Week, when I shall endeavour with them to pass a Law for making a Draught from the Militia, to furnish what Men we can for the above Expedition; but we are in great [p.370] want of Arms &c. I have wrote to General Shirley for a Supply from those he has to distribute among the

different Colonies.

As the French have been indefatigably industrious with the Southern Indians to gain them over to their Interest I judged it absolutely necessary, & my indispensable Duty, to secure the Interest of the Catawbas & Cherokees; & accordingly I have sent Commissioners to their Nations with a considerable Present, to make a firm Treaty with them, & to endeavour to ascertain, or stipulate the number of Warriors they will supply us with on Occasion; the Commissioners have been gone six Weeks, when they return I shall give you a distinct Account of their management.

The Cherokees have taken up the Hatchet against the French & Shawnesse Indians; those Indians have committed many Robberies & Murders on our frontier Settlements; the Cherokees sent to our assistance about eighty of their Warriors, to whom I joined two hundred & thirty of our Rangers, with Orders to attack the Shawnesse in their Towns, which is about two hundred & fifty Miles from our Frontiers to the Westward; they have been gone about a Month, when they return shall give You account of their doings; if they succeed it may prove of much service by reclaiming some of our friendly Indians that joined the French; & others that remain neuter will be

greatly encouraged when they observe the Southern Indians have taken up the Hatchet & joined our Forces against the French &c. [p.365] I shall endeavour to procure a trusty Indian to go to the Picts & Twightwees, to assure them of our Friendship, as I am convinced they have a great Hatred to the French, for some barbarous Murders committed by them in their Nation about four Years ago.

Capt. Arbuthnott (sic) in His Majesty's Ship Garland arrived here last Week from a Cruise, with two French Ships he took off Hispaniola; he says, that he was informed, a French Frigate of twenty six Guns, two hundred Men, touched there from France bound to Mississippi; & a great many Land Officers on board.

I will give me much Pleasure to write you, & to inform You of any thing that may occur for His Majesty's Service, which I shall punctually do. And I beg Leave to assure You, that with great Deference & due Respects, I remain

Right Hon^ble

Your most obedient and
very faithful hble Servant
[autograph] Robt. Dinwiddie

Henry Fox Esq^r.

[p.366].

Endorsed Virginia March 20th 1756/Lt. Govr. Dinwiddie/Ry June 9th.

C.O.5:17